# Policies of Exclusion For Czechs and Slovaks

# Democracy Seen at Risk In Bratislava

Prague Law **Limits Rights** Of Gypsies

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia - When Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany

spicuous omission.

Slovakia, which he once cited as a prime candidate, is no longer on his list.

Recent events in Slovakia have led Western governments to complain with unusual force that this country is failing to live up European standards of democracy. Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar and his allies have responded by accusing foreign governments of seeking to threaten and intimidate them.

"I'm not sure they're aware of the fact that they're slowly being pushed aside," said Frantisek Sebej, who was chairman of the foreign relations committee in the Czechoslovak Parliament from 1990 until the country split apart at the end of 1992, and who now belongs to a small

opposition party in Slovakia.
"We are becoming an authoritarian country run by people with no ideology, just an insatiable hunger for power," he said. "The word fascism doesn't fit, but this is becoming an intolerant, highly centralized nationalist state."

government is seeking to consolidate its power with undemocratic tactics.

ing insufficiently loyal. Judges who are considered unreliable have found their budgets cut. Members of Parliament from the opposition Democratic Union are being direatened with expulsion on the ground that their election petitions included invalid signatures.

Political loyalty has also become a night. Local officials say the city cannot pay its electric bills because Mr. Meciar is withholding funds to punish voters for

choosing an opposition mayor.
Several draft laws now circulating among members of Parliament, all of which would centralize more power in Mr. Meciar's hands, have also caused concern in the West.

One proposal would reduce autonomy at universities, another would make it more difficult for the Constitutional Court to declare laws unconstitutional, a third would restrict the activities of private organizations and a fourth would punish citizens who make negative statements about the country that they cannot prove to be true.

journalist, and Frantisek Moklosko, democracy because international law is

See SLOVAKIA, Page 5

By Jane Perlez

PRAGUE — Nearly three years ago, Verona Slobodnikova suddenly felt like delivered a speech about Europe's future
this month, be called for enlargement of
the European Union and suggested three
candidates: Hungary, Poland and the
Czech Republic.
Mr. Kohl's list was notable for a con-

"I can't go to a doctor and get it paid for by the state like I used to," said Mrs. Slobodnikova, who was born in Slovakia but has lived in Prague since childhood. "I can't apply for a job. They ask you in the first meeting at the Job center for your

citizenship papers."

Theoretically, she could apply for Czech citizenship. But Mrs. Slobodnikova has found that becoming a citizeo all over again is not so easy. A 1993 law says she must renounce her Slovak citizenship and meet stiff new requirements for Czech citizenship that some human rights advocates assert are the most discriminatory in Europe since World War II.

The Czech Republic is viewed in the West as a bastion of tolerance and lofty ideals, a country that has most easily made the transition from communism to democratic values.

But European and U.S. lawmakers have criticized the Czech government for a law that they say appears to have been written with the idea of depriving minority in the Czech Republic.

The intralized nationalist state. Citizenship to Gypsies, the largest ethnic minority in the Czech Republic.

A Czech human rights group, the Tolerance Foundation, has estimated that at The civil service and the government-run television system, for example, have been purged of people suspected of be-been purged of people suspected of be-

> In a letter to President Vaclay Havel, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe described the citizenship law as "instituting what may be the largest denaturalization in Europe since the World War II period."

The law has meant that many Gypsies local governments. In the capital, vatization program or reclaim property Bratislava, many street lights are dark at confiscated by the Communists. Those without citizenship are barred from vot-ing or holding public office and are routinely denied social benefits in this country of 10.5 million people.

Social workers say these restrictions further penalize a largely impoverished group that suffers daily from being refused service at bars and restaurants and prevented from renting apartments.

The discriminatory practices here are particularly serious, says the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, because they set a precedent for other nations contemplating stringent citizenship requirements as a way of excluding people for ethnic or religious reasons.

Citizenship legislation based on eth-

Two opposition figures, Peter Toth, a Europe and it's being done in the cloak of

See GYPSIES, Page 5



A group of American soldiers ankle-deep in mud conferring on movements along the Sana River in Bosnia Wednesday.

# Phil Gramm's Uphill Fight to Stay Even

# The Tenacious Texan Chases Dole and the Nomination

By Sam Howe Verbovek

president of the United States.

Campaigning in Phoenix recently, Mr. Gramm was introduced to 21/2-year-old Leah Clark, a dazzling little towhead, by her proud parents. "I had a girlfriend once named Leah," drawled Mr. Gramm, tickling the toddler under the chin. "She

dumped me!" Phil Gramm's style may or may not captivate the voters. But for the most part, Mr. Gramm, who a colleague once said was "charismatically challenged" and whom Texas Monthly magazine described as a man with "the round, wizened face of a snapping turtle," never planned to win the presidency with a charm offensive any-

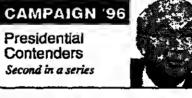
Instead, he has tried to storm his way to the Republican nomination with the twin Gramm is stuck in a crowd. bludgeons of an unbendingly conservative economic message and an enormous campaign war chest.

Now, though, with the 53-year-old sen-ator having clearly failed to build any air of

Democrats.

inevitability about his own nomination, his Tennessee: propositioo: that there is nothing inevitable FLAGSTAFF, Arizona — There is a about the nomination of the front-runner, kind of offbeat charm in the roguish self-Bob Dole. "We're where we want to be," deprecation of William Philip Gramm, the he insisted in an interview. "I said at the tator: "He's a protest vote against Dole. If establish Phil Gramm as the viable con- beating Dole, they'll desert Buchanan in

servative alternative to Bob Dole. We have achieved that." **CAMPAIGN '96** 



gest that at least three other Republican challengers can lay claim to the mantle of which he has lavished far more money than Mr. Dole's chief rival or, perhaps more accurately, that none of them can. Mr.

Gramm is stuck in a crowo.

So, rather than dueling with Mr. Dole head-on, the Texas senator rattles off the Gramm had clearly hoped to be spending most of his time building the case against

· Lamar Alexander, former governor of

· Steve Forbes, the multimillionaire: "People are not going to vote for Forbes;

Pat Buchanan, the political commeo-

The essence of Mr. Gramm's strategy remains unchanged: finish close enough to Mr. Dole in the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary to establish himself as the prime alternative, then overpower Mr. Dole in a string of more conservative Southern and Western state primaries that

Mr. Gramm dismisses his standing well below Mr. Dole, insisting that they are largely based on name recognition and that But several state and national polls sug- a truer reflection of the race is his victories in straw polls of party activists, events on any other candidate but which he says demonstrate the grass-roots strength and organization of his campaign.

See GRAMM, Page 4

# Serbs Accused Of Trying to Wreck Peace Over Sarajevo

Request to Postpone City's Reunification Denounced as a Ploy

WASHINGTON — The foreign min-ister of the Muslim-led Bosnian govern-Wednesday of trying to scuttle the Balkan peace plan through delayed reunification of Sarajevo under Muslim rule.

The Serbian leadership "sees the issue of Sarajevo as a way to break the back of the peace agreement," Foreign Minister Muhamed Sacirbey said at his embassy

He said Bosnian Serbian leaders were hoping to derail the U.S.-brokered pact that formally ended the war on Dec. 14 "for the simple reason that the road to peace means. for many of them, a one-way ticket out of political office or, more importantly, a one-way ticket to The Hague."

The Hague is the site of the International War Crimes Tribunal, which has charged the Bosnian Serbian military commander. Ratko Mladic, and the civilian leader, Radovan Karadzic, with war crimes.

Warring factions, meanwhile, seemed set to meet the deadline for pulling back from confrootation points, but the peacekeepers' deployment has been disrupted because of flash floods that hit a French

Foreign Legioo camp.

The White House indicated Wednesday that it would respond positively to a NATO request to install U.S. radar around Sara-jevo to replace British and Dutch radar

being moved to northwestern Bosnia. The Washingtoo Post had reported that The Washingtoo Post had reported that British General Michael Walker, commander of NATO ground troops, had asked for two radar installations capable of quickly tracing any artillery fire back to the offending muzzle to allow for an immediate response for any attack on allied forces.

"We will meet our obligations under the integrated NATO plan, and they have always talked about counterbattery operation being central in and around Sarajevo," said the White House spokesman, Michael Mo-

the White House spokesman, Michael Mc-Curry, "I leave it to the NATO people to

talk about the hardware involved. White House spokesman that sending the radar would lead to mission escalation, with U.S. troops progressively exceeding their mandate without proper planning, as happened in Somalia in

On Tuesday, Bosnian Serbian leaders appealed to the commander of the NATOled peace force in Bosnia, U.S. Navy Admiral Leighton Smith, to postpone the scheduled government takeover of Ser-bian-held districts of Sarajevo. The transition is scheduled to be completed in less than three months.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization rejected the request, which reflected Serbian fears of living under Muslim rule in suburbs of a capital shattered by Serbian shelling during a three-and-a-half-year

In Sarajevo, warring factions seemed set to meet a midnight Wednesday deadline for pulling back from front-line flash-

See BOSNIA, Page 5

# A Japan Kingmaker Who Would Be King

By Kevin Sullivan Washington Post Service

TOKYO - Ichiro Ozawa, for years the backroom kingmaker of Japanese politics, became a likely candidate for prime minister on Wednesday when he was easily elected president of the leading opposition

Mr. Ozawa, 53, defeated former Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata by nearly 2 to 1 in the race for the presidency of the New Frontier Party, injecting new energy into a Japanese political world suffering from a lack of direction and leadership.

"To encourage the healthy development of parliamentary democracy and for the stability of Japan in the 21st century, reform is needed now," Mr. Ozawa said at a news conference after his victory.

Mr. Ozawa's victory means that he and Ryutaro Hashimoto, 58, the tough-talking trade negotiator who was elected president of the powerhouse Liberal Democratic Party in August, are now the two most probable candidates to succeed Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama in the next elections.

Newsstand Prices

Andorra......10.00 FF Morocco......14 Dh

Antilles ...... 12.50 FF Catar ...... 10.00 Rials

Cameroon 1.600 CFA Reunion ...... 12.50 FF

Lebanon ..... US\$ 1.80 U.S. Mil. (Eur.)...\$1.20

Those could be held as early as this spring, given the increasing fragility of the left-right ruling coalidon grouping the Liberal Democrats, Mr. Murayama's Social Democratic Party and a third party. A surprise prime ministerial candidate could always emerge, but the odds-on favorites now are Mr. Ozawa and Mr. Hashimoto, two of the most controversial politicians in panese politics

Mr. Ozawa is considered brilliant and visionary by his admirers and tyrannical and devious by his critics. While he is widely admired for his intellect, his hardcharging, authoritarian style has made him unpopular in many political circles.

His reputation is similar in many ways to that of Mr. Hashimoto, the prickly trade negotiator who took on the United States in last summer's auto trade talks. His toughness and flamboyance have won Mr. Hashimoto as many critics as supporters.

"I would say Hashimoto and Ozawa are both from the same school," said Robert M. Ort Jr., an American business executive and political observer in Tokyo. Both men learned their politics in the

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Page 16.

See JAPAN, Page 4



Ichiro Ozawa celebrating in Tokyo.



## AGENDA France Conducts 5th Nuclear Test

South Pacific on Wednesday, a Defense Ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman said the underground hlast, equivalent to less than 30 kilotons of conventional explosives, had been detonated at the Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia at 2130 GMT. It was the fifth in a series that broke a

1992 moratorium on French ouclear testing. The first took place on Sept. 5, the second oo Oct. 2, the third on Oct. 27 and the fourth on Nov. 21. The United States expressed disap-

"We're disappointed that France does continue to conduct tests," Julie Reside

PARIS (Reuters) — France staged the in Washington. "We have supported a fifth of its nuclear weapons tests in the temporary ban on all nuclear testing and would like to see other nuclear powers support such a ban as well."

President Jacques Chirac has said that

France will probably conduct six tests, two fewer than originally planned. Honduras Struggles With Its Past

More Chinese Muscling in Hong Kong EUROPE pointment after France announced the Paris Denies Cover-Up on Pilots

BUSINESS/FINANCE a State Department spokeswoman, said Good Omen for Japanese Economy

# She's Old (120), but She Drives a Very Hard Bargain

By Barry James

PARIS — When André-François Raffray bought Jeanne Calment's apartment 31 years ago — with her still in it — he had every reason to congratulate himself on a

The agreement was that he would pay her 2,500 francs (currently \$508) a month until she died, on condition that he would inherit the apartment in the pleasant southern town of Arles. Since she was then 90, he gambled that he would not have long to wait.

But Mrs. Calment, aged 120 years and 309 days, has gone on to become the world's oldest living person as far as official records are concerned. Mr. Raffray, a lawyer in Arles, died on Christmas Day at 77.

three times what the apartment was worth. She tried to console him on her 120th birthday by

saying, "We all make mistakes in life." It is a long-established custom, known as "viager," or

pray for them to drop dead could be taken right out of

By final reckoning, he had paid Mrs. Calment at least the occupant is still alive. About 4,500 properties change hands this way every year. But as Mrs. Calment's longevity proves, the practice is far from risk-free. France has so many centenarians — some 5,000 — that Despite this cautionary tale, the popularity of this form the Social Security system recently had to program its of home-buying shows no sign of disappearing in France. computers to recognize people born more that 100 years

Mr. Raffray, a notary accustomed to handling such Maupassant wrote a short story about it and a movie deals, could not have known this in 1965, when he signed called "Le Viager" appeared in 1971.

Choulish though the practice may be, some of the stories of clearly widows cheating death while capitalists life. In 1965, only a handful of people made it to 100. on to take over Mrs. Calment's apartment when, and if, she died and to pay her the monthly fee for the rest of her

Charles de Gaulle was luckier. Or, perhaps, more astute. He bought his house in Colombey-les-Deux-The rough rule is that the older the seller, the higher the Eglises from a widow to whom he also agreed to pay a price and the monthly "rent" the buyer has to pay while. lifelong amulty. She died two years later.



# Honduras Struggles to Come to Grips With Past

By Larry Rohter

EGUCIGALPA, Honduras — During its decade-long "dirty war" against suspected guerrilla sympathizers, the Honduran military kidnapped, tortured and killed dozens of people, confident that the armed forces' enduring grip on power meant that they would never be held responsible.

Now, for the first time, a civilian court has charged 10 military officers with those and other human rights violations in the 1980s. But the commander of the armed forces is openly defying the elected civilian president.

With the commander's backing, some of the indicted officers have gone into hiding, and it is not clear whether they will ever be brought

The struggle has preoccupied this Central American country of 5.7 million people for months, and threatens to undo a delicate balance of power between the military and the civilian authorities.

Like Argentina, Chile and other Latin American countries, Honduras has discovered just how difficult and dangerous it can be to come to grips with the state-sponsored violence of its recent past.

Until December 1993, the human-rights abuses of the 1980s and the military's role in them were a taboo subject here. But that changed when the government's commissioner for human rights, Leo Valladares Lanza, published "The Facts Speak for Themselves," a voluminous study that documented the forced disappearance and presumed deaths

In the report, Mr. Valladares said that at least 26 clandestine cemeteries were scattered around the country and that 100 or more current or former Honduran military officers might have been involved in the kidnappings. He singled out an elite unit called Battalion

316, organized and trained with the support and advice of the United States and Argentina, for the worst abuses. Since then, the government's special prosecutor for human-rights violations, Sonia

Dubon de Flores, and Judge Roy Medina, leader of a judicial inquiry into abuses by the military, have been trying to bring those responsible to justice. In July, to the shock of civilians and soldiers

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alike, the 10 military officers were charged with kidnapping and torturing six leftist col-lege students in 1982. Unlike most of those who disappeared, the students survived. "This is the first time in Honduras that a civilian court carries out a trial of senior army

officers," Judge Medina said at the time. "The judicial process will run its course, and I will soon call these military officers to appear." The Central Intelligence Agency also is

slowly and belatedly confronting the con-sequences of fighting the Cold War in Central America. Throughout the 1980s its ties to the Honduran military were deep. enior Honduran military officials, in-

cluding some who oversaw Battalion 316, went on the CIA payroll, U.S. officials said. They were paid for information and for their help in the Reagan administration's clandestine war against the Sandinista government in Nicaragua and leftist

The CIA's role in the creation of Battalion 316 was substantial, former U.S. and Honduran military and intelligence officials said. General Luís Alonso Discua, commander in chief of the Honduran military for the last five years, received U.S. training and advice before he became the battalion's first commander.



General Luis Alonso Discua, the Honduran military commander, who has defied efforts to prosecute officers for rights abuses.

U.S. officials said the agency instructed the battalion's members in purely nonviolent means of interrogation and how to spy on suspected subversives. But an internal review at the agency may unearth harsher facts.

The director of Central Intelligence, John M. Deutch, who ordered the inquiry, has called the CIA's work in Honduras an example of "how not to do things," He has not decided whether any part of the report, due in January, will be made public.

General Discua has always scoffed at the accusations against him and his troops. "I don't believe there have been violations of

human rights in Hooduras," he said recently.
"There was a war between two forces. There are many soldiers dead and many civilians who died because of terrorist attacks, bombings and acts of subversive criminals. This. logically, created a problem of extraordinary circumstances, as in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Nevertheless, the military has responded to the Honduran government inquiry with intimidation and outright disobedience.

In August, just after the first indictments were announced. General Discua sent armored personnel carriers and artillery into the streets of the capital and warned: "The armed forces will adopt actions if there is any problem of partiality in the courts."

But Judge Medina plunged ahead and in October ordered the detention of three of the 10 dez Santos, a former operations chief of Battalion 316 who is now inspector general of the national police. All three officers immediately

dropped out of sight and remain in hiding. Instead of ordering his men to surrender to the indicial authorities, General Discua sup-ported their position. "The armed forces do not trust the present system of justice," he declared. "The accused officers will not submit to the courts while there is no assurance of justice in Honduras."

The national police, which is under General Discua's command, is supposedly searching for the fugitives.

"We are continuing to look for them, but we cannot find them," Danilo Orellana, a police spokesman, told Honduran journalists, whose newspapers have reported that Mr. Hernández has taken refuge on a ranch he owns and that the other officers are hiding on a military base near the capital.

resident Carlos Roberto Reina maintains that he is powerless to prevent such defiance. Though nominally in charge of the military, the president recently expressed concern that any edict to hand over the fugitives would be disobeyed and, with that, his prestige diminished.

"Sure, I can order any member of the armed forces to do anything," he said on Dec. 4. "But the problem is that some of them won't turn up. They are out there in hiding somewhere, and the order would remain hanging in the air."
Judge Medina has received death threats

and, after two men recently fired on his courthouse, shouring that he should "come out so we can kill him," he reluctantly accepted a bodyguard. A security guard for Mr. Valladares was shot to death.

"The more you investigate, the more is revealed, the more threats there are," said Dr. Ramón Custodio López, director of the Honduran Human Rights Commission. His wife was beaten and had acid thrown in her face during his efforts to help the inquiry.

Mr. Custodio, a psychologist, said four retired sergeants and two informants, all affiliated with military intelligence, were killed over a two-week period in October. The human rights leader said information given to his group indicated that all six men had been "summarily executed" because "they may know a great deal about what took place in the 1980s."

Government investigators have had only marginally better luck in obtaining cooperation and assistance from the United States. Mr. Valladares first wrote to the U.S. Embassy here in 1993 asking that U.S. government documents about Battalion 316 be declassified; he reiterated his request in July 1995.

In October a State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns, said in Washington: "We want to provide as much information as possible and as quickly as possible," since "our aim is to promote better respect for human rights and national reconciliation in societies like Honduras."

But in an interview in early December, Mr. Valladares said that so far he had not received any of the promised information.

Honduran judicial authorities have insisted that two former U.S. ambassadors return to testify under oath. John Negroponte, now ambassador to the Philippines, headed the U.S. mission here at the height of the Central American conflicts and was succeeded by Chris Arcos, now an executive at AT&T. But the United States has declined to make either man available, invoking diplomatic immunity.

#### **Coming Up**

As economic reforms enrich China's cities, the disparities between the coastalrich and the poor peasants in interior . . provinces have become so great that some critics are warning of civil war.

# An Israeli Pullout Ahead of Schedule

# Ramallah Withdrawal Helps Set Stage for Vote

By Barton Gellman Washington Post Service

West Bank population centers and setting the stage for elections Jan. 20.

The pullout took place against the backdrop of negotiations between Israel and Syria that resumed later Wednesday in the United States.

Ramallah was the last of the large cities to be handed over before the vote, under a watershed agreement signed with Israel in September. Given the nature of the task - withdrawal from occupation of a hostile populace and replacement in power by former enemies the transfer of authority has with uncanny

There were no serious casualties in the two-month operation, although the army had its dignity bruised from time to time. Israeli soldiers had to flee Nablus in haste, and some Palestinians burned a flag they Israel has agreed, in effect, nev-left behind, but in Bethlehem er to return to the large city local children handed flowers to the Israelis as they drove off.

Ramallah fell between those poles: the Israelis packed up efficiently and sped away as flag-waving crowds shouting "Soldier go home!" and youths threw a few stones at the trail of dust they left behind.

Yasser Arafat's appointed covernor of Ramallah, Mustafa an unusual air of optimism that issa, known better here as Abu the results this time will be pos-Firas, moved swiftly to fill the itive, The Associated Press revacuum, using the first cohort ported.
of what will be 1,200 policemen "We hope to be able to fato take possession of Israeli police and military posts.

The new arrangements under which more than a million Department. Palestinians will share the West Bank with the remaining 140,000 Jewish settlers have not been tested much. But it is a notable achievement already that, despite the murder last founding in 1948. month of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Israelis and Peres, determined to accelerate Palestinians have managed for peacemaking with Israel's And the first time to make a ne-neighbors, has signaled Presgotiated timetable stick.

Aside from the six major cities - Nablus, Qalqilya and could recover the border buffer. Tulkarm in addition to Ramal- zone in its entirety.

the Palestman self-rule anthority has day to day control JERUSALEM — The last Is— in hundreds of surrounding vilraeli Army jeeps pulled out of lages. A seventh city, Jericha Ramallah ahead of schedule oo has been in Palestinian hands Wednesday, leaving Palestini- since May 1994, and most of ans in control of nearly all their Hebron is to receive self-rule early next year.

Israel said Wednesday that it would release more than 1,000 Palestinian prisoners next week-Israel is believed to be hold. ing more than 4,000 Palestinian security prisoners, some of whom have been convicted of violent crimes but many of whom have never been charged with a specific offense.

litical and economic hub for Palestinians since the movement toward self-rule began The real-estate market is booming; Arab banks are coming in, and several senior figures of Mr. Arafat's authority have made it their home.

With Wednesday's pullout more than 90 percent of the West Bank's Arab population has thrown off the major features of a 28-year occupation. er to return to the large city centers, but reserves the "overriding right" to enter any of the more than 400 Palestinian villages for security reasons.

■ Peace Talks Resume

Israel and Syria resumed their land-for-peace negotiations near Queenstown, on Maryland's Eastern Shore, with

cilitate the meeting on a broad range of issues," said Glyn Davies, speaking for the State

At stake are the future of the Golan Heights and the prospect of relations between the two countries that have fought three

Prime Minister Shimon ident Hafez Assad of Syria that for the right peace terms Syna

## TRAVEL UPDATE

#### **Food Drops in Northern Scotland**

LONDON (AP) — Helicopters were dropping emergency food on Wednesday to remote towns in northern Scotland, which has been hit by the worst snow storms on record. 'All roads remained blocked on the Shetland Islands, where the

local authority declared an emergency on Tuesday.

Heavy snow and freezing fog also blanketed parts of northern England and Northern Ireland.

# Rains and Snow Cause Havoc in Spain

MADRID (AP) — Heavy rains, snow and winds up to 90 kilometers an hour have caused at least four deaths in three days while floods have closed highways and slowed traffic through much of the country, authorities said Wednesday.

Rains are being blamed for fallen trees, cut electricity lines and overflowing rivers in central and northern regions that have flooded farmland and city streets.

After more than a week of rains, travel advisories continued for principal highways and smaller roads. Heavy fog and rains hampered port traffic in coastal cities. Towns near rivers around the south-central city of Caceras were put oo alert for further flooding, according to meteorology officials,

Tourism in Indonesia in 1995 will total 4.3 million people, up from 4.01 million a year earlier, the minister for tourism, post and telecommunications, Joop Ave, said.

Troubled by pigeons that get sucked into aircraft engines, the Taiwan government said it had barred the raising of the birds near airports. The Civil Aeronautics Administration said pigeons. could not be kept within a radius about five kilometers from the ends of airport runways.



# Fear and Squalor in the Niger Delta Amid Vast Riches of Oil For all this they hlame the month, igniting worldwide the United States, hy far Nige-Shell Petroleum Development anger.

By Stephen Buckley Washington Past Service

ULIAKATA, Nigeria --Logs and sticks form a path through this tiny village in southern Nigeria. After a quarter-mile, the waters grow blackUliakata, which lies about 35 odor soaks the air: oil.

midafternoon heat of the Niger River delta, haul buckets of oil that eventually will be dumped into two roadside tanks, each gallons. One tank is full; the other is halfway there. When an oil pipeline rup-

lakes and two creeks, poisoned dered their farmland virtually useless. They say 17 children which they fear contributed to

Co. of Nigeria, the dominant oil producer in black Africa's most populous country. For its part, over the creeks that weave Shell blames the government,

brown. The surrounding land is miles (60 kilometers) north-stained a similar color. An acrid west of Port Harcourt, is just west of Port Harcourt, is just one of many areas in the south-Shirtless men, drenched in em Niger delta whose inhabsweat in the hammering itants accuse Shell of wrecking their environment and failing to develop their villages and towns. Despite their mineral wealth, communities in these with a capacity of hundreds of areas are among Nigeria's poorest. They endure hundreds of oil spills annually and typically lack roads, electricity, tured last June, villagers say, running water, schools and the spill contaminated five medical facilities.

their fishing ponds and ren-rights groups and environmento leave the West African counhave died since the accident, try of 100 million people, whose military regime execut-

The activists executed last month — among them the playwright and poet Ken Saro-Wiwa — were part of the Move-ment for the Survival of Ogoni People, or Mosop, which had launched a worldwide campaign against Shell's policies in Ogoniland, a region of about

know that they are the ones

In recent weeks, human tal activists have implored Shell whose military regime executgovernment's revenues. Nearly otage and says the shrinkage in leaders first bubbled up more
ed nine political activists last 50 percent of the crude goes to farmland is a result of rapid than two decades ago when the

500,000 people just east of Port

'Shell has not made community development a top priority, but the problem ultimately is with the government." said an activist with the Civil Liberties Organization in Rivers State, which produces 60 percent of Nigeria's oil. "But the people do not concern themselves with that. They only

suffering."
Oil, discovered in Nigeria in 1956, provides more than 90 percent of the country's export earnings and 80 percent of the

ria's largest oil customer.

Shell, which produces 50 percent of this nation's oil and began its Nigeria operation in the 1950s, is one of several companies that have a share of the industry. All are part of joint ventures with the government, which holds a stake of 55 to 60 percent in each partnership. Shell's troubles hegan in

1990, when Mosop was born. Led by Mr. Saro-Wiwa, the group embarked on an inter- munities, composed of small national campaign to draw attention to the people in the 82 communities that make up Ogoniland. Mosop sought \$10 billion in reparations from Stall and the second statements of the second statement

From 1985 to 1993, the year Shell ceased operations in Ogo-niland, that region suffered at least 111 oil spills. Pollution blighted farmland, forcing gram of 240 public-works prolandowners to grow food in tiny plots. Shell asserts that 77 of the Ogoni spills resulted from sabotage and says the shrinkage in

population growth. Company officials add that they have drawn up plans to improve agriculture, schools and roads and have begun a scholarship program for Ogoni students. Nigerian government offi-

cials say Ogoniland's problems are common throughout Nigeria and the Niger delta, home to some 6 million people. They deny that the government has neglected oil-producing areas because those com-

ethnic groups, historically have But they do admit neglect. "We are trying to redress the basic services that these communities have been lacking. said Colonel Dauda Musa Ko-

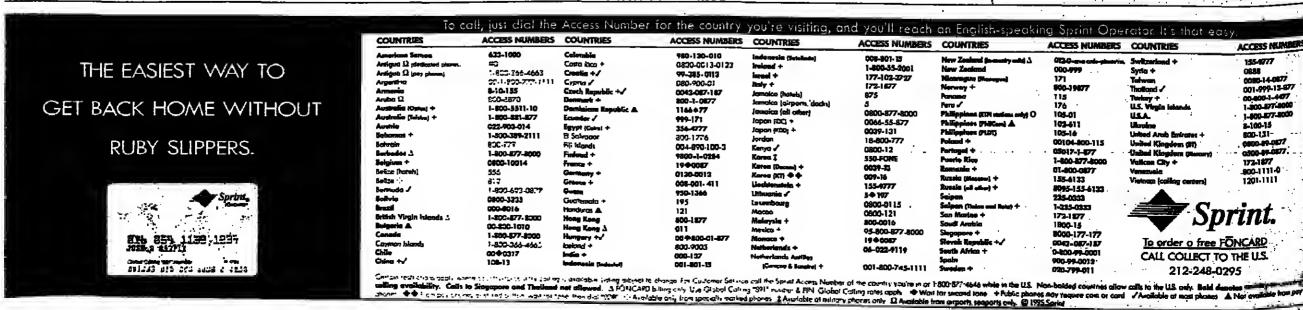
Hostility between oil-pro-

landowners in those regions had no ownership rights to Crude found on their property.
Until the early 1980s, res-

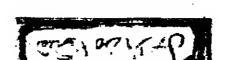
idents in those areas received virtually no proceeds from Nigeria's oil revenue. In 1982 the government set the compensation rate at 1.5 percent for oil-producing communities, a figure that has since reached 13 The government keeps about 75 percent of the revenues that

flow from the 2 million barrels of oil produced daily in Nigeria. A barrel of oil currently sells for about \$17; the government receives \$12. Such facts emhitter residents of towns such as Oloibiri, a community 60 miles west of

Port Harcourt where oil was first discovered in Nigeria. A sign proclaims the riverside town as "the goose that laid the golden egg," but many ducing areas and Nigeria's residents, blaming Shell and the leaders first bubbled up more government, contend that the egg proved to be rotten.



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# Brazil's Tenacious Peasants Win a Key Round in Their Fight for Land

By Gabriel Escobar hington Post Service

CARUARU, Brazil - Across from the neat path that leads to the Normandie estate's imposing manor lies a chaotic squatter camp-ground whose unsure tents, which pass for homes, are made of twigs and twine, plastic and paper. Yet the camp gives the impression of permanence, since the squatters have been here for three years and have oo intention of leaving. There is a reason for their persistence.

This camp is a home, but above all it is a political statement - a powerful one these days here in the northeastern state of Pernamhuco and throughout Brazil - and the appearance of permanence is crucial to the struggle.

Throughout Brazil this year, in

90 or so settlements like this, thousands of peasants organized by the 15-year-old Landless Worker Movement have been turned into an

and marshaled by the media-savvy movement into unlikely conqueror. are at work here, including a more cent has in effect rewarded lawless-national organization, these ragtag

Any day now, Mr. Versosa and the favorable policy on land reform on ness by awarding land to squatters. national organization, these ragtag squadrons have fought off violent attempts at evictions, suffered and inflicted casualties and in the process have made land reform a surprising national priority in a country in which 1 percent of the population owns 45 percent of the privately held land.

In his tent, where a yellow drinking cup and other homey touches hang from the ribs of twigs that hold the thing together, 74-year-old Ar-lindo Francisco Versosa has constructed a bed that could well serve as a metaphor for the suddenly influential Landless Worker Move-

Like the remarkably solid bed, which is made of thin rope, slender branches and a few stubby limbs, the movement itself draws its strength from assembling the weakest and most plentiful element of rural Brazil: the landless peasant.

That simple formula is about to convert Mr. Versosa, a descendant Armed with picks and shovels of slaves, from foot soldier in the

other than Brazil's president, Fer-tractable policy of occupation. nando Henrique Cardoso.

development in Latin Americans' of- even organizations representing and hundreds injured. form, a pursuit that has occupied the the emergence of the first powerful has been, to different degrees and at Peasant Leagues of the 1950s. This tention and produced a new wave of Mexican state of Chiapas.

Until this year, the struggle for land reform in Pernambuco, as in the rest of Brazil, had been uphill, with legal and legislative setbacks obscuring the few victories. But this year, cause now receives in national opinand a member of the national dithe Landless Worker Movement draioo polls, predict they will have a rectorate. "We are going to work matically increased its activism major impact on municipal elec- for a big social movement, and beacross Brazil, aggressively occupying more land and, for the first time since the early 1960s, forcing the jority of the population.

other squatters will receive legal the part of Cardoso, many agree that right to the land they invaded three the catalyst for the transformation sive tactics have produced some of years ago, a promise made by none has been the movement's in-

The result, according to members Such victories mark a significant of the movement, politicians and ten quixotic quest for agrarian re- Brazil's powerful landowners, is left in Brazil since the mid-1800s and rural voice since the rebellious the movement, brought it media atdifferent times, at the core of rev- voice is that of a grassroots moveolutionary movements throughout ment that has forced a shift in the would have been content if the govthe continent, most recently in the country's policy on the distribution enumeat met its land goals are now of land and is now setting its sights confidently demanding more.

where squatters now form the ma-

on other changes

Landowners and their allies. Although other important factors meanwhile, say the movement's as-

The peasant movement's aggresthe most serious outbreaks of rural by the movement's activism, has violence in years, including one clash in the far-western state of Rondonia that left 11 peasants dead

But instead of tempering the activism, these clashes have energized recruits. Leaders who a year ago.

n other changes.

Already some leaders of the the goals of the government," said to the government," said movement, citing their growing po- Jaime Amorin, the movement's litical muscle and the support their state coordinator for Pernambuco tions, especially in a few areas youd agrarian reform we are going push for other reforms."

Such bold talk reflects how far the movement has come. The number of squatters has risen this year try for a life of subsistence. The

government, responding to the social and political pressure imposed made some significant strides.

Mr. Cardoso has promised to award land to 280,000 families before 1998, and despite a slow start, officials at the land reform office in Brasilia, the capital, say the target of 40,000 families this year will be

Although the movement ques-tions that figure, even if fewer families were settled it is still signif-icant, considering that land has been distributed to an average of 9,000 families a year since 1980.

Several important economic, so-cial and political factors have helped the peasant movement. Brazil's agriculture is in crisis, the conversion to a market-oriented economy has dramatically inrural as workers return to the coun-

this during a period in which the on all of this, weaving together a potent political argument that it says has 4 million Brazilian landless families as adherents.

The losers, for oow, are people like Andres Tavares, whose family is contesting the Brazilian government's expropriation of the \$2 milhon Normandie estate, where Mr. Versosa and about 90 families are

waiting for plots. Mr. Tavares questioned the motives of both state and church and wondered why neither was offering its own huge holdings to land reform. This defeated landowner's plaintive call for justice — in a state where the sugar barons' dominion over five centuries has left a bitter legacy — is perhaps the most pow-

erful sign of changing times.

"Here people are now in favor of land reform. My family agrees," Mr. Tavares said, acknowledging creased unemployment this year, what for many was unthinkable in and the migration is now urban to the 1980s. "But it has to be done what for many was unthinkable in

# Mexican Speed Pours Into U.S. Flood of Cheap Drug Displaces Crack

By Sam Dillon

MEXICO CITY — Like hundreds of other brash young Mexican narcotics wholesalers working the California market, Jesus Amezcua did well in cocaine, well enough to shuttle between Tijuana suppliers and his Los Angeles clients in a \$50.000 BMW. Then in 1993 the Americans brought a federal indictment against him.

But Mr. Amezcua evaded arrest and adopted a shrewd busioess strategy that American and Mexican officials say has car- the American outlaw motorcyried him to the front ranks of cle gangs who once dominated Mexican traffickers. Retreating to safety south of the border, Mr. Amezcua shifted from cocaine to a narcotic then surging in popularity across the American West, and now sweeping east:

methamphetamine, or speed. nethamphetamine, or speed. epidemic, with cheap speed dis-placing crack in many Western

were clamping down on the "precursor" chemicals used to make methamphetamine, he and his brothers started importing vast quantities of them to Mexico from the Middle East and Asia. He began cooking up methamphetamine in laborato-Madre in Mexico and peddling

it in the United States through

his cocaine sales force. Because Amezcua's business boomed, other traffickers imitated him. Elbowing aside production and trafficking, the States in recent years with methamphetamine.

The result is a new narcotics

at just the right moment. As cities. The average price na-lawmakers in the United States tionally for a gram of methamphetamine has dropped by 20 percent over three years, to as low as \$40 from \$50.

Drug Enforcement Administration, Thomas A. Constantine. told Congress recently: "The Mexican traffickers who floodries throughout the Sierra ed the U.S. with marijuana and heroin in the 1970s and 1980s and cocaine in the 1990s threaten to overwhelm us with methamphetamine now."

Their complete control over methamphetamine production and trafficking has added to the power Mexican traffickers have accumulated in cocaine, mar-Mexican drug mafias have ijuana and heroin commerce at flooded the Western United a time when the Cali cocaine cartel in Colombia has been badly disrupted. That has strengthened the view among American and Mexican antidrug officials that power in the hemispheric drug trade is shift-ing from Colombia to Mexico.

We believe that the major drug gangs operating out of Me-xico pose the largest threat cur-

rently," Mr. Constantine said.

Methamphetamine, which
engulfs those who snort or inject it with temporary energy
and euphoria, has been in use in the United States since the mid-1960s. But now, with production soaring in Mexican-run labs south and north of the border, abuse has spread widely as prices have plunged.

Although this year the Mexican police seized five tons of ephedrine, one of methamphetamine's main ingredients, trade in precursor chemicals has not been outlawed. But this month, the Mexican attorney general, Antonio Lozano, proposed a bill that would for the first time impose tough sentences — up to 15 years in jail



DRUGS UP IN SMOKE - Peruvian police carrying bags of coca paste to be incinerated at a site near Lima. A record 30 metric tons were destroyed this year.

# Budget Wrangling Shifts Into Low Gear

The Associated Press hrief holiday break over, cougressional leaders and the Clintoo administration were slowly reviving talks Wednesday to end a partial government shut-

Congressional and White House aides met without their bosses, a gradual start for negotiations that should involve top lawmakers and President Bill Clinton on Friday.

Senator Phil Gramm, Repubcolleagues to "stand their ground as the budget negotiations resume.

learn from the determination to stick with principles that has the books to permit federal borcharacterized our Republican colleagues in the House," Mr. Gramm, who was campaigning in the Midwest for his party's presidential nomination, said in

The talks among lower-level aides will do little to alieviate the anxiety of federal workers, whose paychecks will be smaller this week; of tourists, whose plans were changed with the closure of national parks and moouments, and of travelers who desperately need pass-

Laks are moving too slowly, the proved. White House press secretary, Michael McCurry, said Wednesday: "It is an urgent situation, but the differences that exist between the two sides are very deep, very fundamen-

Sensitive to criticism that the

Some people, he said, "think WASHINGTON - Their it's all theatrics, but it's not." Mr. McCurry said the president would meet briefly Wednesday with the budget director, Alice Rivlin, whose staff members would see congres-

sional aides later in the day. Mr. Clinton's chief of staff, Leon E. Panetta, was still on vacation in California and would oot get involved in the talks before late Thursday.

Representative Bill Archer, the Texas Republican who is lican of Texas, called oo his chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, also tried to turn up the pressure. He said Tuesday that the Clinton 'Senators have something to administration might be violating the Constitution by juggling rowing without congressional

> When the Senate left for a holiday recess on Friday that in other years would have lasted through much of December, the chamber passed legislation m return 280,000 furloughed workers to their jobs by declaring them essential.

Sponsored by the majority leader, Bob Dole, the measure, if approved by the House and signed by Mr. Clinton, would last through Feb. 1. But workers would be paid

only after money was ap-The measure's fate was uncertain in the House, where Refreshmen have promised to continue the partial closure until the White House accepts a seven-year balanced budget plan to their liking.

- for traffic in precursors.

Nicholas Slonimsky, Musicologist, Dies

NEW YORK - Nicolas Slonimsky, a formidably gifted musicologist and lexicographer who also made his mark as a conductor, pianist and composer, died Monday in Los Angeles. He was 101 years old.

Mr. Slonimsky's many reference works, among them
"Music Since 1900," "A Lex-

icon of Musical Invective" and the last several editions of Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians are considered indispensable by musicians, critics and music lovers.

A compendium drawn from his writings, "Nicolas Slonim-sky: The First Hundred Years," edited by Richard Kostelanetz, was published last year. Mr. Slonimsky was no mere

lore and debunked myths that had found their way into bi-

ographies and reference works. Rather than repeat the romantic depiction of a blizzard at Mozart's funeral, he consulted weather bureaus and discovered that the story was untrue. He was also fascinated by

unusual details. Readers in search of basic information might in the process learn, for example, that Stravinsky had a toothache the day he completed "Le Sacre du printemps," or that Schoenberg and Rossini had triskaidecaphobia, an irrational fear of the oumber 13.

He enlivened his dictionary entries with astute, witty and sometimes waspish observations, and in the later editions of tion" in 1933. Varese dedicat- before his 90th birthday.

purveyor of facts. He challenged Baker, he introduced some mu- ed the work to him. He also sicians with lavish evaluations. Where The New Grove Dic-

tionary of Music and Musicians soberly describes Mozart, for example, as "one of the composers who brought the Viening sentence reads: "Supreme Austrian genius of music whose works in every genre are unsurpassed in lyric beauty, rhythmic variety and effortless melodic invention."

He was a vigorous champion of new music all his life. In the 1920s be founded the Chamber Orchestra of Boston, and he gave premieres of Ives' "Three the bedrock of his philosophical Places in New England" in 1931 and Varese's "Ionisa-Paris on Monday, a few days

championed Henry Cowell and Carlos Chavez, and conducted Bartok's First Piano Concerto with the composer as soloist

Phillip Areeda, 65, one of nese classical style to its the foremost experts on an-height," Slouimsky's identify- titrust law in the United States and a White House counsel under Presidents Dwight D. Ford, died Sunday of leukemia in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

> Emmanuel Levinas, a philosopher and religious thinker who made ethical responsibility for "the Other"

#### POLITICAL

### Gingrich Probe Touches Tax Law

WASHINGTON — The special counsel named last week to investigate the House speaker, Newt Gingrich of Georgia, will be looking at a complicated area of tax law: politicians' involvement with tax-exempt charitable organizations.

In hiring James M. Cole, a former federal prosecutor, the House ethics committee directed him to limit his probe to examining whether Mr. Gingrich violated any federal tax laws — or knew they were being violated — by using tax-deductible contributions to finance a college course he

Mr. Gingrich taught the course, called Renewing American Civilization, at Kennesaw State College in 1993 and the next year at Reinhardt College. Both are in Georgia. The course was funded by the Kennesaw State College Foundation and, at Reinhardt, by the Progress and Freedom Foundation, a group with ties to Mr. Gingrich and some of his

Internal documents show that officials at GOPAC, the Republican political action committee headed by Mr. Gingrich at the time, played a key role in helping organize the course and raising funds for it.

Democrats contend that it was illegal to use tax-deductible funds from the two foundations for what they argue was a partisan political purpose.

They cite documents such as a 1993 fund-raising letter from one of Mr. Gingrich's advisers, Jeffrey A. Eisenach, to a Tobacco Institute official. "The goal of this project is simple: to train, by April 1996, 200,000-plus citizens into a model for replacing the welfare state and reforming our government," Mr. Eisenach wrote.

Mr. Gingrich argues that the fact that some of the money

for the course was solicited by Republican activists from Republicans is irrelevant to whether it was properly taxdeductible. In any case, be says, the course was a legitimate

Using tax-exempt charitable organizations was a helpful device for Mr. Gingrich. Unlike regular political contributions, the donations are tax-deductible, can come from corporations as well as individuals, are not limited in dollar amount and do not have to be reported.

But to enjoy tax-exempt status, the organization must operate "cxclusively" for a so-called exempt purpose, such as education, and must not "intervene in" any political campaign, the law states.

The Internal Revenue Service has adopted a fairly broad definition of what constitutes educational activity, saying that a group may advocate 'a particular position or viewpoint' as long as it provides a 'full and fair exposition of the pertinect facts," not just "unsupported opinion."

### 28 File for Mfume's House Seat

ANNAPOLIS, Maryland - In what promises to be a raucous campaign, 28 Democrats have met the filing deadline to run for the seat of Representative Kweisi Mfume, who is resigning to become the head of the NAACP.

Mr. Mfume, a Democrat who ran without serious opposition in his last four re-election bids, will step down in

His 7th Congressional District is in Baltimore City and part of Baltimore County. Mr. Mfume, head of the Congressional Black Caucus, is quitting Congress to become president and chief executive officer of the National Association for the Advancement of

#### Quote/Unquote

Deborah Ziska, spokeswoman for the National Gallery. after it found the money to keep open a Johannes Vermeer exhibition despite the shutdown of parts of the federal government by the budget crisis: "Wc are able to open the Vermeer exhibition, which is a very rare event in the annals of art history. It may never happen again in a lifetime." (AP)

#### **Away From Politics**

• The median medical malpractice jury award in the United States jumped 40 percent this year, to \$500,000. The increase from a median award of \$356,000 in 1994 marked a return to 1993's record-setting half million dollar levels, Jury Verdict Research Inc. said in a report.

 A thousand Astro-Lounger recliner armchairs are being recalled because the space between the chair's seat and leg rest is big enough to trap a child's head, the Consumer Product Safety Commission said.

• Leaking gas caught fire and blew the roof off a ranch house in North Ridgeville, Ohio, killing a woman and seriously injuring her busband.

"The IHT ran a TWA advertisement in its December 23-25 and December 26 issues announcing a "guest for free" offer. This was not a valid offer by TWA and the IHT printed the ad in error."

# Is It a Vampire? An Alien? Monster Terrorizes Puerto Rico

By Karl Ross

CANOVANAS, Puerto Rico - A hlood-sucking alien predator is ravaging animals throughout the Puerto Rican countryside, or so say this town's mayor and scores of uneasy rural dwellers.

Misael Negron, a 25-year-old colclose encounter with the beast, extensive as the chupacabras. . known here as the 'chupacabras,' 'This is not a joke,' said the

said. "It was about three or four feet hut people could be next."

tall with skin like that of a dinosaur. It The government gave some cre-mentioned everything from aliens to dog, a monkey or any animal I've had bright red eyes the size of hen's dence to the chupacabras hysteria re- vampires, he was certain there was a ever studied." eggs, long fangs and multicolored

spikes down its head and back." True to its name, the creature attacked the family goat, said Mr. Ne-gron, draining the blood from its neck and disemboweling the animal.

Tales of blood-thirsty monsters have grasped the collective jugular of and an oil spill two winters ago. lege student, is one of 15 Canovanas this U.S. commonwealth in the past. residents who say they have had a But none have left a trail of carnage as 'This is not a joke,' said the mav-

or, in its literal English translation, or of Canovanas, Jose R. Soto. "A maulings, its diet also includes cattle, number of my constituents have lost chicken, sheep, pigs, dogs and cats, 'I was looking off the balcony one animals in the past few months. "I was looking off the balcony one animals in the past few months. right, and I saw it step out of a bright We're taking it very seriously belight in the back yard," Mr. Negron cause it's killing animals right now,

cently by launching an investigation rational, down-to-earth explanation of the night attacks. At least part of the reason was concern about its impact on the tourist industry. Puerto Rico is just now rebounding from a drop in tourism, and tourist dollars, caused by water problems last year

The creature earned its name because many of its earliest victims reportedly were goats. But, according to the nearly daily accounts of animal even peacocks.

José Espinosa, public information officer for the State Civil Defense, said that although many here had

for the recurrent attacks, but he has yet to figure it out. Carlos Soto, a veterinarian who has

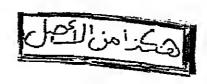
examined the remains of a Doberman pinscher and seven rabbits killed by the mystery predator, says he is convinced that something very strange happened to them.

In each case the cause of death were two deep puncture wounds under the right side of the neck," Dr. Soto said. "The wounds extended Soto said. "The wounds extended at the garage across the street, they into the animals' brains, killing them tried to tackle it, but it slipped away instantly. The wounds were about the from them, she said. "After it was diameter of a drinking straw, and over, I said to my mother, 'We'd three to four inches in length. They better not tell anybody about this beweren't compatible with the bite of a cause they'll think we're crazy,

For Madelyne Tolentino, 31, of

Canovanas, the chupacabras is no mystery. She and her mother stared at the chupacabras for three minutes or so one day when it paused on the sidewalk in front of their home. Ms. Tolentino said the creature

was built "like a kangaroo without a tail," with powerful hind legs. She also noted a web-like film hanging beneath its short, pudgy arms. With her husband and a co-worker



ASIA

INTERNATIONAL LIEDALD TOTALINE CATTIRDAY-SUNDAY-MONDAY, DECEMBER 23-24-25, 1995

# China to Name Panel On Colony's Future

# New Committee Will Rival Hong Kong's Legislature

By Kevin Murphy International Herald Tribun

HONG KONG — Largely ignoring Hong Kong's most popular elected politicians, Beijing will name 34 prominent business leaders to a powerful committee that is planning for and administrative elite. the British colony's handover on July 1, 1997, according to reports published Wednesday.

The 150-member Preparatory Committee is designed to help implement and advise Beijing on the myriad details of Hong Kong's final transioon to Chinese rule.

It will also favor Hong Kong appointees over those from China in keeping with the "One country, two systems' and sought a broader range of "Hong Kong people running Hong Kong" slogans that Beijing says guide its intentions At the same time, a mer toward Hong Kong.
But with Beijing vowing to

dismantle the territory's existemerge as a potent rival to Britain's remaining political in-fluence in the community.

provincial officials who thought they, too, should have been included on the list.

The real question is bow this committee will promote Hong Kong's interests when those interests aren't aligned with China," said Bob Broadfoot, managing director of Political and mittee Thursday, made policy Economic Risk Consultancy recommendations to Beijing Ltd., as quoted in a Bloomberg Business News report.

According to a report in business leaders on the new

According to a report in Hong Kong's Chinese lanrently sitting Legislative Councilors to a Preparatory Com-Kong appointees.

China Defends Record

BEUING — China praised its human rights record Wednesday and attacked Western crit-

official government report, issued by the Chi-

nese cabinet, appeared to be intended to head

off criticism of Beijing before the United Na-

tions Human Rights Commission in March.

jing court sentenced China's most uncom-promising democratic activist, Wei Jingsheng,

Like most of the government's justifica-oons of its human rights policies, the 23,000-

word report stresses group rights over in-dividual ones. It notes that China has given

priority to the people's rights to economic development and political order. (AP)

2 Accused in Philippines

MANILA — Two rebels captured in a gov-

ernment crackdown on leftist guerrillas are

suspected in the 1989 killing of a U.S. Army

colonel, officials said Wednesday. Colonel James (Nick) Rowe was ambushed on April

21, 1989, as he was being driven to his office in suburban Quezon City. Two others convicted

in the killing are serving life prison terms.

The new suspects were identified as Orlando Bondalian Jr. and Ruperto Lopez Jr.

Interior Secretary Rafael Alunan accused

them Wednesday of taking part in the attack on

Colonel Rowe. They have not yet been

India Investigates Breach

NEW DELHI - The government has cre-

ated a top-level intelligence committee to lonk

into gaps in India's air-defense system after a

cargo plane dropped a huge cache of weapons, news reports said Wednesday.

Five Latvians and a Briton were being ques-

tioned after the suspicious plane was forced to

land in Bombay by two Indian jet fighters last

The police were continuing to search for weapons that were parachuted in crates into

In Air-Defense System

Of U.S. Officer's Death

Its publication came two weeks after a Bei-

On Human Rights

to a 14-year prison term

aligned groups that have angered Beijing with calls for greater democracy.

Nor will the Preparatory Committee include representatives from business firms still clearly linked to Hong Kong's weakening colonial business

The composition of the new committee, to be formally an-nounced Thursday in Beijing after approval by the Standing Committee of the National Peo-ple's Congress, bas featured heavily in local media reports.

Governor Chris Patten was criocized this week by Chinese officials for interfering in post-1997 matters through his comments that the local community sought a broader range of representatives than would be in-

At the same time, a member of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, Tsang Hin-chi, on Tuesday deing Legislative Council in 18 nied reports that the Preparamonths' time, analysts said the tory Committee's selection had new committee is likely to rankled influential Chinese

> On several occasions the Preliminary Working Committee, which did not include many of the top businessmen likely to be named to the Preparatory Com-

committee is seen by some anguage Ming Pao newspaper, alysts as a counterbalance to the Beijing will name 14 of 60 curtee's prior influence.

While they might not have mittee that will be nearly two- Hong Kong's political freethirds dominated by Hong doms at heart, the business leaders are likely to resist any But none will come from the Hong Koog Democratic Party, led by Martin M. C. Lee, or center's future strength.

BRIEFLYASIA

ics for interfering in its domestic affairs. The Apologizes for Cover-Up



TIME WITH THE BOSS — President Jiang Zemin of China visiting workers at a wool mill in Lanzhou during a tour of Gansu Province.

# Captives' Release Fails to Restart Seoul Rice Aid

SEOUL - South Korea, brushing aside the release by Pyongyang of five added. captured seamen, ruled out resuming rice aid to the North oo Wedneday unless its neighbor changes its atti-

change in North Korea's attitude toward

"The return of the Woosung crew sbould oot be seen as a change in North Korea's basic attitude," be added.

was just one prerequisite for additional

rural India oear the border with Bangladesh.

So far, assault rifles, anti-tank missiles, rocket

launchers and thousands of rounds of am-

Japanese Reactor Chief

TOKYO - The head of the state-funded

operator of Japan's fast-breeder reactor apol-

ogized to a parliamentary committee Wednes-

day for an attempt to cover up the extent of an

accident that forced the shutdown of the re-

"The employees lacked awareness regard-ing public informatioo disclosure," Hiroshi

Oishi, head of the Power Reactor and Nuclear

Fuel Development Corp., told the House of

Representatives' Science and Technology

The corporation operates Japan's prototype

fast-breeder reactor, Monju, in Fukui Pre-

fecture north of Kyoto. Monju was closed

down on Dec. 8 after liquid sodium, an ex-

plosive substance, leaked in the secondary

shutting down the reactor, a delay in alerting

the local community and a cover-up of crucial

or tampered with video tapes that showed the

**VOICES** From Asia

Mahathir bin Mohamad, prime minister

of Malaysia, saying that the country's trans-

formation into a developed nation hinges on

harmony among ethnic groups: "We cannot

stop at just ensuring that only relations be-

tween communities are good. We want re-lations between members of society, be they

from the same community or different com-

Chiang Chung-lin, defense minister of

Taiwan, denying reports that Taiwan's mil-

itary was reviving a long-shelved project to

develop medium-range missiles capable of targeting China: 'We have no plans to revive

the Sky Horse project or to change the short-range Sky Bow II into a medium-range mis-

sile. Nor would we develop nuclear

information on what happened.

The accident was compounded by a delay in

Plant officials were found to have concealed

cooling system.

extent of the damage.

munity, to be closer."

weapons.

munitioo have been recovered.

aid, Mr. Song said. "The issue of rice Korea agrees to broader government-to-aid all depends on North Korea," he government dialogue.

The trawler Woosung was seized in May after straying into Northern wa-

Two of its crew memebrs were killed

Seoul shipped 150,000 tons of rice to the North on bumanitarian grounds this year, but it suspended the aid program

South Korea has since said further

government dialogue.

It ignored a United Nations call to

maintain the rice flow and asked Japan to follow suit. Tokyo shipped 300,000 tons of a promised consignment of 500,000 tons of rice.

suggested that the release may have won Pyongyang more aid.

It quoted a diplomatic source as saying that officials from the United States, South Korea and Japan would meet in Hawaii next month to discuss the is-

"It's difficult to say that Pyongyang is changing its attitude with the return," a Unification Ministry official said.

"It seems to still want nothing to do

do a show for the outside world," the official said. 'It's not enough," said an official at the Foreign Ministry, referring to the crew return.

"If the North really is desperate it should ask for more rice and stop the On Tuesday, Seoul's official media slandering. They should bold talks with

The official confirmed the that the meeting in Hawaii would take place, but said it had not yet been decided what issues would be discussed.

The Yonhap news agency reported that the United States would be represented by Winston Lord, the senior American official for East Asia and the Pacific, Japan by Deputy Foreign Min-ister Shunji Yanai and Seoul by Deputy

# Mall Owner Sentenced For Disaster In Seoul

SEOUL - A court on Wednesday gave a 10 and a half year prison sentence to the owner of a shopping mall that collapsed, killing 501 people and mjuring 900 in the worst civil engineering disaster in

a forme: Fire

pion and

member:

Octobe:

had been been

South Korean history. Relatives of the victims had demanded the death penalty for Lee Joon, 73, who was found guilty of negligence in the June 30 accident, when the five-story Sampoong Department Store collapsed with more than 1,500 shoppers and employees in-

Lee Han Sang, Mr. Lee'a 43-year-old son and the president of the mall, was convicted of negligence and bribing government officials. He was sentenced to seven years in prison. The three-judge court also imposed prison terms ranging from eight months to three years and fines of up to \$17,000 on 23 others charged with various irregularities connected to

the collapse.
"The defendants deserve stern punishment for bribing relevant officials, thus causing a major disaster," said the se-nior judge, Lee Kwang Yol.

The store caved during a busy early evening when it was packed with shoppers and em-

It was one of several manmade disasters that set off public hand-wringing over the hu-man cost of South Korea's breakneck economic growth and drew attention to the sometimes lethal effects of corrup-

Faulty design and poor construction were blamed for the collapse of the store. Witnesses said the roof of the mall had been crambling all day, but that officials who met to discuss the situation had left after deciding to take no action. The organization that repre-

sents the victims' families repeated its stance that both Lees should be executed and said it would stage rallies to express dissatisfaction.

"We are angry," the families said in a statement. "They deserved the highest punishment possible. They deserved the death sentence.

Under South Korean law, however, the death penalty is not applicable in negligence

Among those convicted were city officials who took illegal design changes and construction company officials. were given two-year suspended (AP, Reuters) sentences.

### "There is no change in our govern-ment's position, the deputy unification minister, Song Young Dae. "For ad-ditional rice assistance, there must be a ditional rice assistance, there must be a North Korea is on the brink of famine

The handover at the border on Tuesday of the five seamen, as well as the remains of three other crew members,

after Pyongyang rebuffed repeated re-quests to release the Woosung and its

deliveries can be made only if North with the South Korean government but Foreign Minister Lee Jai Chun.

TOKYO - A U.S. serviceman de-

scribed by his co-defendants as the ringleader in the alleged rape of a school-

year-old girl on Sept. 4. Kyodo news agen-

GIs Dispute Responsibility for Japan Rape Harp told the court that he was afraid to

disobey Seaman Gill. ringleader in the alleged rape of a schoolgirl on Wednesday disputed their claims
that he bullied them into an arrack that has
undermined U.S.-Japan relations.

Scannan Gill, who said on Tuesday that

three servicemen, Seaman Marcus Gill implicated Kendrick Leder and Rodrico Harn. that made them look bad," told the court highly political nature of the case, that Private Harp, who first spotted the girl.

The petition said the defendent jumped out of their rented car and grabbed

her, Kyodo said. On Tuesday, Private Ledet and Private
Harp told Naha District Court that they of resentment in Okinawa at the concen-The case has touched off an outpouring were forced by the older and stronger Sea- tration of U.S. military bases on the isman Gill to help abduct the girl. Private land.

The three-judge panel is expected to issue a verdict Jan. 19. If convicted on Seaman Gill, 23, has pleaded guilty to charges of rape causing injury, the three

In the sixth session of the trial of the his two co-defendants "left out the parts Gill sought a change of venue, citing the

both Marine privates, in the rape of a 12- and Private Ledet were the ones who out receive a fair hearing in Okinawa and bribes in exchange for allowing asked for the trial to be moved elsewhere in Japan. The court said the petition was in- struction. Eleven defendants, complete and asked that it be resubmitted, mostly low-level mall and con-Legal experts said chances of a venue change at this advanced stage of the trial were extremely slim.

## GRAMM: Though He Is Waging an Uphill Fight, Few Would Count Him Out Altogether

Continued from Page 1

cy reported.

Mr. Dole, not against the lesserknowns. In fact, by declaring early and raising \$20 million. far more than any other candidate except Mr. Dole (though Steve Forbes is a wild card because he is spending his own money), Mr. Gramm wanted the race to be a two-man duel by

But if Mr. Gramm is waging an uphill fight for the nomination, few people count him out altogether. Richard Murray, a professor of political science at the University of Houstoo who has closely followed Mr. Gramm's political career, said that while "it doesn't seem like be plays well on the presidential stage." Mr. Gramm has a history in Texas of winning races in which people did not take him seriously at first.

In fact, the only race he ever lost - long before be switched from the Democratic to Republican Party -- came when he tried, as an obscure 33-year-old professor of economics at Texas A&M University, to

oon for the Senate from a pop-ular incumbent, Lloyd M. Bentsen, in 1976.

"Phil Gramm is just so easily underestimated," Mr. Murray said. "He's smart. He's tough. He's determined. He's resourceful. He's focused."

Mr. Gramm has a history of shrewdly seizing the political advantage. Running behind in a race for the House of Representatives two years later, Mr. Gramm seemed headed for oblivion until the retiring conpressman in his district, at a news conference to endorse Mr. Gramm's opponent, falsely implied that Mr. Gramm and his wife, Wendy, had a child out of wedlock. Mr. Gramm masterfully seized on the aspersion, using it to build both voter attention and sympathy, and he

narrowly won the race. And in perhaps the most legendary incident of his career, Mr. Gramm appeared to have violated all political decorum in a 1982 fracas. As a member of Democratic-controlled Budget Committee in 1982, Mr.

gan's budget director, David A. Stockman, provided the Republican White House with crucial secret information about the Democrats' budget strategy.

Mr. Gramm was booted off of the committee for his heresy. But rather than atone, be committed apostasy.

He resigned his seat, immediately declaring for the vacan-'cy as a Repoblican and telling the voters in his district: "I had to choose between representing Tip O'Neill or y'all, and I chose to represent y'all.' He won smashingly, and the next year be won the statewide election to the U.S. Senate. He has survived ethics

scrapes ranging from the arguable use of his Senate staff for campaign activities to a controversy over a Dalias savings and loan operator's paying al-most half the \$117,000 in building expenses on Mr. Gramm's vacation home on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Mr. Gramm said that the man contracted to do the work and that the money represented a cost overrun.

Mr. Gramm's tenacity is well documented in everything from his political campaigns to his courtship of his second wife, Wendy Lee Gramm, whom he married in 1970 and with whom he has two sons, Marshall and Jeff. Both Mr. Gramm and his wife say her first response to him was: "Yuck!"

to offer a job to Miss Lee, herself an economist. "As a single member of the faculty," Mr. Gramm's future wife recalled him telling her, "I'd be very interested in having you come to Texas A&M." The remark, rather than landing Mr. Gramm a sexual-harassment lawsuit landed him a wife.

Mr. Gramm cites the evident armed force that would be used in a remarkable repudiation of the problems, but Ozawa has exclusively for United Nations the Liberal Democrats that few directly right now."

and of the problems, but Ozawa has attended to the many long-serving as that of the many long-serving members of his staff and of his the beginning of his career or, strength."

description of him as "mean."

"I think that when you say, 'No,' in Washington, it makes you mean," he said, as a turboprop airplane passed over the crimson-rock canyons of central Arizona. "But people forget that when you say, 'No,' in Washington, you're making it possible for families to say, 'Yes,' around their kitchen table."

Mr. Gramm's pre-eminent campaign pledge is to balance the federal budget in four years, if he is president, and not to run for re-election if he fails to do so. And in recent weeks - perhaps in response to a memo from his own pollster, Linda DiVall, who warned that the Gramm campaign "offers pain and hard choices, no optimism" --- Mr. Gramm has been trying to stress the positive aspects of his plan.

"All we hear from Washington is the sacrifice involved in balancing the federal budget," he said at a construction ing prisons like Holiday site in Phoenix." We don't hear Inns." anything about the benefits."

To that end, he produced 27year-old Ty Brewster, a struggling computer programmer with his wife, Lisa, and two young daughters, Morgan and McKenzie. This is something we'd like to do if we could just get a little more of our tax dollars back," Mr. Brewster said, ges-turing at a house in the making.

Mr. Gramm, projecting that a That was when Mr. Gramm balanced budget would cut inwas on a recruiting trip for terest rates by two percentage Texas A&M, which was ready points, rattled off figures about just how much money "average Arizonans" could save on home mortgages or car loans. To the builder of a master-

planned community here in Flagstaff, Mr. Gramm was even you rich by balancing the federal budget!" he pledged, slap-ping the man on the back.

Mr. Gramm is often given

wrest the Democratic comina- Gramm, according to an according to accord Gus — to counter a recurring servative before conservative was cool.'

Drawing a contrast with Mr. Dole, whom he described as "a politician in search of a consensus" and someone who was "clueless" about the real meaning of last fall'a election,

Mr. Gramm said: "Party activists know that Senator Dole for 35 years has basically been, in the context of the modern Republican Party, a moderate. His hallmark has been cutting political deals and I think if there's ever been a time where the public is not inclined to go with a deal cutter, it's now.

Then, he quickly added:
"Now I know him well. I like Senator Dole. I'm an admirer of

Mr. Gramm does have a take ent for offering conservative positions in clear, colorful terms. "The social safety net has become a hammock," says, or: "We must stop build-

His chief strategist, Charles Black, said Mr. Gramm's big breakthrough would probably come just after Iowa and New Hampshire, in places like Arizona, whose primary comes . one week later. 'Towa's really Dole's best

state in the whole country," Mr. Black said in an interview. "New Hampshire, that's a northeastern. New England state - you've got to expect Dole to win those. Then, the calendar gets much more Gramm-friendly.

The senator agreed: "One clear advantage I've got right now is that the people that are for me are for me. They have been for me when they have more blunt: "I'm gouna make read every day that I was losing. They have been for me under the worst of circumstances and they are not going anywhere And if we begin to win, they're going to get very, very enthisiastic about it. And that's a

# JAPAN: Tokyo's Backroom Kingmaker Aims to Shake Up Politics, and Emerge as King

Continued from Page 1

organization whose supporters not include the voter's name and ernment bureaucracy into 15 accounted for about half of the telephone number, making it ministries, and delegating party's votes in last summer's bailoting.

But most observers believe that New Frontier still has momentum, especially after a campaign between Mr. Ozawa and open debate on important is- Ozawa called for fundamental of Japanese politics.

cess further. New Frontier al- economy and society." lowed any adult citizen of Japan to vote in the election, for a \$10 fee. There are about 490.000 tremely spicy," calls for big registered party members and cuts in taxes on income, land associate members, and 1.6 mil- and corporate earnings, along lion ballots were cast since the with major investment in tech-

impossible to guard against multiple voting and other fraud.

Mr. Ozawa's victory was marked by the kind of radical proposals for change for which he has become known in the last Mr. Hata that was praised for its three years. In this election, Mr. after bearing children and doing sues, a rarity in the closed world changes to what he called "the tices that favor academic cre-In an effort to open the pro- iocs, the administration, the

Mr. Ozawa's 10-year plan, which he has described as "exballoting started on Dec. 16. nology, railroads and airports.

many of the bureaucracy's functions to 300 new "city"

governments. He also has proposed shortening the workweek, helping women re-enter the workforce away with employment pracaway with the "examination bell" that skews Japanese education toward rote memorization of facts.

In addition, Mr. Ozawa

would like to create a new

Critics said the process was flawed because many ballots did ing the entrenched central govinilitary to be kept at "minernment bureaucracy into 15 Many of Mr. Ozawa's proposals are startling in Japan,

where the government bureau-

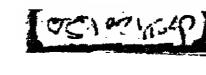
cracy regulates nearly every aspect of life, but Mr. Ozawa has startled the Japanese before. In 1993, he defected from the he had been the chief political strategist, and became one of entire outdated system of pol- dentials above all else, so doing the reformers who brought down the mighty ruling party after nearly 40 years in unin-

terrupted power. He was a key backer of Morihiro Hosokawa, who was elected prime minister in July 1993

Mr. Hosokawa, who had backed Mr. Hata in Wednesday's election, said in interviews that people had "voted for forceful leadership in a time of uncertainty and stalemate." In June 1993, Mr. Ozawa

published "Blueprint for a New Japan." The book, notable for its blunt language and criticism Liberal Democrat Party, where of some basic Japanese "govemment knows best" beliefs, was an immediate best-seller and drew angry criticism. But Takayoshi Miyagawa, a

political analyst, said Wednesday: "Ozawa is the only politician who can break the blockade in Japanese politics. All the other politicians try to put off



# French-Cult Member, Wondered Why He Didn't Die Earlier

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — A 27-year-old man iden region of southeastern France tified by the French authorities as one All the corpses had at least one of 16 people found dead last weekend builter wound and had been doused after an apparent cult rite had said that with incordiary fluid. Policemen in the feared for his life agent for his life.

a former French Olympic ski champion and ski entrepreneur, Jean Vuarnet, said after the murder entrepreneur of 52 net, said after the murder-suicide of 53 members of the Order of the Solar members of the Order of the Solar shots. Reuters reported quoting a Temple in Switzerland and Canada in French prosecutor on Wednesday. October 1994 that he and his mother had both been members of the apoc-

and I are both still wondering why we vice pistols I didn't receive the call."

Mr. Vuarnet disappeared from its founder. Luc Jouret a Belgian Geneva, where he lived, 10 days ago. doctor, and Joseph di Maubro — died On Saturday, his charted body and more than a year ago. Their remains those of his mother, Edith; his com- were recovered among the bodies impanion, Ute Vérona, and Ms. Vérona's molated in October 1994.

6-year-old daughter, Tamia, were Among the latest victims, the Vuar-

Cover-Up On Pilots'

**Treatment** 

PARIS - France denied

Wednesday that it was shield-

ing the Bosnian Serbs after a

newspaper said that two French

airmen had been told to cover

up alleged torture during 104

days as captives in Bosnia-

"We have not accepted any conditions" for the pilots' re-

lease, a Foreign Ministry

spokesman. Yves Doutrianx,

The weekly Le Canard En-chaine said Tuesday that a

French general had ordered the

airmen to "say that everything

happened according to the Geneva Convention, though,

it said, they were badly beaten, poorly fed and subjected to

mock executions in which they

were choked and their broken

legs kicked.
"I doo't think it's a way to

protect the Serbs," Mr. Don-triaux said, "Immediately after their release and before their

release we said we were not

ready to discuss with the Scrbs

any conditions. We said it then.

Lieutenant José Souvignet

were freed by the commander of

the Bosnian Serbs, General

Ratko Mladic, on Dec. 12, clim-

inating a final stumbling block to

the signing of the Bosnian peace accord in Paris two days later. The paper said Captain Chif-

fot's nose was broken during

beatings and an employee of the

hospital where both men were

treated for broken limbs contin-

ued to hit Captain Chiffot's nose,

knocking him unconscious sev-

eral times. A Defense Ministry

spokesman denied the pilots had beeo told what to say about their

captivity but would neither con-

firm nor deny the paper's account

of their treatment.

very precise."

and we can repeat it now."

Herzegovina.

found among 16 corpses haid out ra-dially around the remains of a camp-fine in the wilderness of the Vercors of the family, Jean Vuarnet, nearly 63, helped found the ski resort

he feared for his life after a similar Switzerland, where most of the dead massacre a year ago. Patrick Vuarnet, one of three sons of mass murder.

forest clearing were killed by rifle his three sons had kept in contact with or were killed as part of a winter The prosecutor, Jean-Francois Lo-

had both been members of the apocarians, said the 14 were probably killed alyptic cult.

"I fear for my life," he told the officers, and who appeared to have then killed themselves with their serdidd." The probability is the said of the officers of the said of the officers of the said of the officers.

The two known leaders of the group

resort of Morzine. He heads a business that licenses the family name to manufacturers of stylish sunglasses and ski

leaders and 51 of their followers were marks the shortest day of the year, found burned to death last year.

The French authorities said they would release a list of all of those found dead in the Vercors after the expected to be identical to a list of 16 Temple. people associated with the cult whose relatives reported them missing earlier this month?

The service revolvers of two French policemen on that list were found among the charred bodies last weekdanchet, stationed in the French Alps, was missing with his wife and two

weekend French cult experts said that the Order of the Solar Temple mixed el- rifice. equipment.

Mr. Vuarnet said on French television over the weekend that he was

Contact of the Solar Temple lines of the S aware that his wife and the youngest of and speculated that the 13 adults died members of the cult even after its two solstice ritual; the solstice, which

occurred Friday. "These people knew too much and were murdered," speculated Renaud Marhic, a French author who has pubcompletion of the autopsies, but it is lished a book on the Order of the Solar

> In an interview published in l'Express after the massacres last year, Patrick Vuarnet said that he had been described by friends as an emotionally

One of them, Jean-Pierre Lar- unstable woman who felt neglected by her husband.

'The theme of the passage from life of Avoriaz in the French Alps and was children, aged 2 and 4. In all, three to death came up again and again," he also closely associated with the nearby children's corpses were found last said then. "Jouret explained that there was oothing to fear - quite the cootrary, I began to feel close to sac-

"What I thought was true is false,

But over the weekend of Dec. 17, authorities believe, he drove his mother, his companioo and her child the 150 miles (240 kilometers) from Geneva to the forest above the French village of Saint-Pierre-de-Chérennes for the final passage.

Jacques Guyard, head of a French parliamentary commission on sects that was set up in 1994, said there were 1,300 of them active in France, from Scientology to splinter groups, with 150,000 members.

Mr. Guyard said the commission introduced to the cult by an astrologer would propose closer supervision and in Geneva, and that he had decided to join after discussions with his mother, claim immunity from prosecution for committing crimes.

**BOSNIA:** 

Dayton peace deal.

Serbs Accused

Continued from Page 1

points, in the first real test of

their willingness to honor the

"It's going pretty well but the local commander is allowed

to be a little flexible and we'll wait until midnight to make a

judgment," said a NATO

source who asked oot to be

named. Under the peace accord.

rival military forces are re-

quired to pull back from des-

ignated sites along the con-frontation line by Wednesday,

eight days after NATO formal-

ly took over the peace-keeping mission from the United Na-

The alliance also summoned

rival military commanders to

Porebrice, in northern Bosnia,

for their first regional peace talks in a hleak no-man's-land

of bunkers and minefields cho-

sen by NATO to drive home the

U.S. Major General William Nash, head of U.S. troops in

NATO's Bosnian peace force,

convened the gathering so the

warring parties' commanders

could discuss implementing

peace by removing millions of

mines strewn across the coun-

try.
They met in the remains of a shelled restaurant straddling snow-covered front lines in an

area where Muslims, Serbs and

Croats fought some of the war's

fiercest battles.

The grim battlefield zone was meant "to symbolize the

borror of war and get on with

the peace," General Nash's aide, Colonel Henry Strathman,

Mr. Sacirbey, who was meet-

ing Pentagon officials later Wednesday, described a smooth transiooo in Sarajevo as

criocal for persuading Serbs

living elsewhere in Bosnia that

they need not fear living under

To calm Bosnian Serbs, he said the government was bringing more of them into a multi-

ethnic civilian police force and would welcome monitoring by

human-rights groups of the re-unification of Sarajevo.

The peace drive came under

attack from the weather when

flash floods hit a French For-

eign Legion camp and threat-

ened to delay the building of a

bridge crucial for a U.S. troop

buildup. Helicopters plucked some 60 Legionnaires to safety when a tented camp for 1,000

paratroops outside the southern

armored cars with 25mm can-

non and 12.7mm machine guns,

headed east from a checkpoint

outside Mostar toward the

Muslim rule.

Neretva.

borror of the conflict.

### BRIEFLYEUROPE

#### Pro-West Turk Parties Seek Pact

ANKARA - Turkey's political parties set about forming a secular alliance Wednesday to block Islamists from taking power after weekend elections, but mutual resentment betweeo the party leaders showed problems loomed.

"I believe there will be a coalition soon - there are no toplevel meetings at the moment, but behind-the-scenes work is going on," said an aide to Prime Minister Tansu Ciller. "But I don't think the coalition can last long, and I can foresee new elections in less than two years."

Mrs. Ciller's True Path Party and the rival conservative Motherland Party finished together behind the Islamists in elections Sunday, winning about 40 percent of the vote between them, against a bit more than 21 percent for the Islamist Welfare Party.

Analysts fear a further power vacuum in Turkey, where there has been a stopgap government since Mrs. Ciller's right-left coalition collapsed in September, if conservatives

#### Kozyrev Sent on Afghan Mission

MOSCOW — Russia's foreign minister, Andrei V. Kozyrev, was still clinging to his job Wednesday after a meeting with President Boris N. Yeltsin. But he was clearly oo ootice.

Mr. Yeltsin said this fall that he would replace Mr. Kozyrev. The question was when. Many observers expected Mr. Kozyrev to emerge from the meeting Wednesday with his resignation in hand. Instead, be was told to go to Afghanistan and negotiate the freedom of Russian pilots downed there by Islamic fundamentalists.

#### Hints of More French Unrest

PARIS - The co-leader of the recent wave of strikes in France is threatening more unrest at the end of January when new tax increases bite into pay slips, according to an interview published Wednesday.

Marc Blondel, the leader of the Workers Force union, told La Tribune Desfosses, a husiness newspaper, that, "come the end of January, when taxes will hit, there will be an awakening of demands."

He said the union's executive committee would meet Jan. 15 to "see what are the attitudes of our organizations" and to 'examine the situation for further actions." Mr. Blondel said the unions would press the government of Prime Minister Alain Juppé to limit parliamentary oversight of the social security system to disbursement of tax revenue and oot of revenue from worker and employer contributions.

#### Polish Prime Minister Stays On

WARSAW - The Polish prime minister, Jozef Oleksy, who has been accused of spying for Moscow, said Wednesday that he would oot suspend his dudes until prosecutors

reviewed the allegations.

"The tasks and duties of the government are substantial, and it is not time for such gestures," Mr. Oleksy said in a state radio interview, responding to suggestions that he should take a leave of absence.

The espionage allegations against Mr. Oleksy arose last week, just as President Lech Walesa was to hand over the power to Mr. Oleksy's colleague, Alexander Kwasniewski. Mr. Oleksy has rejected the charges as groundless. He acknowledges frequent cootacts with Russians, but says the evidence against him was fabricated by Mr. Walesa's sup-(Reuters)

#### New Clue in Palme Case Dubious

STOCKHOLM — A gun being examined in connection with the 1986 murder of the Swedish prime minister, Olof Palme, may not eveo have been in existence at the time of the killing, the police said Wednesday.

Forensic experts were examining the revolver, a Smith & Wessoo 357 Magnum, which was handed over to police after an anonymous source gave it to the tabloid Aftonbladet.

"A technical investigation is under way," a police spokes-man said. "It may be that the barrel, or even the whole gun, was made after 1986.

He said the police hoped the opster, who has communicated with the police only through Aftoobladet, would come forward for proper questioning. (Reuters)

# 135 Massacred in Raids By Rival Zulu Groups

(100 miles) south of Durban. The ANC's spokesman in KwaZulu-Natal hlamed the Zu-DURBAN, South Africa — At least 135 people have been killed in policial and criminal violence in South Africa's Zulu heartland province since last Friday, the police said Wednes-

day.
The toll compared with 90 victims of violence in KwaZulu-Natal province over the same months.

period a week ago. In one of the worst incidents, the police said more than 600 Zulus armed with spears, axes

Bosnian town of Mostar was engulfed by the flooded river and guns swept through rural villages of Shobashobane in Spanish troops and armor crossed into Serbian-held areas Izingolweni, on the KwaZulu-Natal south coast, hurning, of southern Bosnia for the first killing and looting in a sustime to assert NATO'S "go pected politically motivated atanywhere" peace mandate.
In driving rain, a column of a
dozen vehicles, including BMR

tack on Christmas Day.

At least 19 people were killed in the attack on homes of families of African National

Mbeki on Tuesday visited the Bosnian Serbian town of scene of the massacre outside Nevesinje. (Reuters, AFP) Port Shepstone, 160 kilometers

Congress supporters.

Deputy President Thabo

Phillip Powell, denied the al-legation, saying Inkatha mem-bers had been subjected to a wave of killing in the past three A police spokesman said Shobashobane was quiet Wednesday, and that be expect-

ed the toll to rise as more bodies

lu-based Inkatha Freedom Par-

But an Inkatha spokesman.

ty for the massacre.

were found in burned houses. "Shobashobane is a ghost town," he said. "That means it is quiet since the attack. I can say that nobody has been ar-rested. There are units of the South African National Defense Force and the Internal Stability

Unit patrolling the area.' A human rights watchdog group, the Network of Indepen-dent Monitors, called oo Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to allow an independent investigation.

### France Is on Top Of Dutch Hit List

AMSTERDAM - Dutch antipathy toward their German oeighbors is notorious, but a recent poll has shown that they like the French even less.

Many observers thought that bitter memories of World War II occupation and intense rivalry on the soccer field had secured Germany's status as least-favored-naoon here.

But a poll for De Volkskrant newspaper revealed that in fact the Freoch were seen as the most arrogant and least demo-cratic of the Netherlands' nearest European neighbors.

The Belgians were the most popular, closely followed hy the British, with the French narrowly edging out the Germans for the title of least-loved.



SNOWBOUND - Boats blanketed with snow Wednesday in the Yorkshire town of Filey. In the Shetland Islands, some roads reopened, but hundreds of people lacked electricity and more snow was forecast for the weekend.

# **EUROPEAN**

## New Software Harness For Royal Mail's 'Snail'

, In Britain, electronic mail and conventional mail may just have found a way to live together. Thanks to a technological crossover promoted by a private on-line company, computer users will be able to send messages to those who do not have computers for next-day delivery anywhere in Britain.

During a two-month trial, users of software offered by the PhoneLink company will send E-mail messages much as they would have before, reports The Sunday Times. PhoneLink's computers will pass on those destined for conventional delivery - "snail mail," in the Internet services headquarters in London. There they will be printed out, placed in en-

velopes and sorted for delivery.
"."We think of it as having a postbox on your, desk," says Chris Knowles, a Phonel ink spokesman. "And one which Captain Chiffot's father, Jean-Louis Chiffot, said in inhappens to be at the center of the Royal terviews that the article was Mail's postal services."

In the future, the Royal Mail may also tion, he screamed so loudly that the soloffer custom-designed envelopes and diers threatened to shoot his father. After color printing of E-mail documents.

bound to follow - taking some of the 'snail" out of snail mail.

#### Around Europe

e coastline between Blackhall and Ryhope, in northern Eng-land, was known for scenic wooded valleys referred to locally as "denes" until the coal mining industry arrived in the last century. The lovely coast of East Durham became the infamous "black beaches," polluted by mine waste. But two years ago, the last deep mine closed. Local, regional and national groups are now raising £10.5 million for a cleanup that will include removal of two huge slag heaps. The East Durham Task Force bopes eventually to reopen six railroad stations that once brought thousands of vacationers to the coast.

It is a most European story: B. D. Cremer was a youth of 14, living in the Dutch city of Groningen, when German soldiers, on their way out of town, entered 1945. When they took the young boy's an award for a "deserving young wife." most prized possession, a stamp collec-

the war, be painstakingly assembled a PhoneLink does not have an exclusive new collection, only to have it stolen arrangement with the Royal Mail, so if the during a break-in. Illnesses in the family experiment is a success, imitators are left him without the wherewithawal to start over. So he turned to the Germans who else? — for help. In a letter to the daily Die Welt of Hamburg, he asked for gifts of stamps to allow him to build a new European Union, become our true friend." The response bas reportedly been most gratifying.

In the past, some elderly French people left their fortunes to be administered by the village or city government, which each year would confer an award on a local person or couple of unusual merit. The quaint-sounding practice endures, but it has required some updating. In 1892, one Victorine Gilbert left her fortune to provide annual awards to "the person who, at greatest risk to life and limb, has managed to stop a runaway horse in Paris." The City of Paris has combined and modernized such prizes, now recognizing, for example, a person "displaying great courage." Years ago, a certain Mademoiselle Garbillier left her own fortune to award "virginly maidens of the family home one dark April day in the seventh arrondissement." Now there is International Herald Tribune

# SLOVAKIA: Democracy at Risk GYPSIES: Czech Law Makes Citizenship Difficult

#### Continued from Page 1

deputy chairman of the Christian Democratic party, have recently reported being assaulted on the street by thugs who were not interested in robbing them. Parliament adopted a resolution charging the Slovak governnot interested in robbing them.

Both suspect that the beatings ment with following "policies were a form of retribution or warning from elements of the nearly invigorated secret po-Last month, Parliament ap-

proved a law requiring the use of the Slovak language in many circumstances. Like many Slovak laws, this one is vague and open to various interpretations. But it has deeply upset leaders of the country's ethnic Hungarians, who constitute about The Hungarian ambassador,

Jeno Boros, said he feared that "bureaucrats at lower levels" would use the law to discrimmate. Mr. Boros described several cases that have already come to his attention, including one in which an ethnic Hungarian was not allowed to send a telegram in Hungarian.

There is an old expression

in this part of the world that says that the more languages you know, the better person you are," he said. "Now you hear a new expression: The more languages you know, the worse

Slovak you are. In recent weeks. Western governments have expressed the secondern about these developments in a series of blunt messages. The European Union made a formal diplomatic deman rights abuses, and the Unit country.

ed States followed with one urging the government to place greater emphasis on the toleration of diverse opinions." Soon after, the European

which show no respect for democracy, human and minor-ity rights and the rule of law." The chairman of Slovakia's Parliament, Ivan Gasparovic, who is a close ally of Mr. Me-ciar, warned that these condemnations were "creating dangerous tension and nervousness in the country."

'A large number of Slovaks are beginning to have serious doubts about the sincerity of Western states' desire to integrate Slovakia into the EU and NATO," Mr. Gasparovic said. Mr. Gasparovic and Mr. Me-

ciar declined repeated requests. for interviews this month, but one leader of the governing par-ty, Dusan Slobodnik, chairman of the parliamentary committee on foreign affairs, agreed to speak briefly.

"In no country in the world is it allowed for people to say publicly that the prime minister is a criminal, without any repercus-

sions," Mr. Slobodnik said.
"Meciar was elected by the people, and in our political sys-tem that means he has all the power he needs. We have made mistakes, I don't deny it. But we have elections and a free press as io any democratic country. Nothing happens here that is oot in accordance with marche to complain about hu- the necessity to defend this

Continued from Page 1

fairly weak on this," a UN refugee official said. refugee agency has also ex-pressed concern that the Czech Czech voters. Aside from the basic queslaw is encouraging Gypsies, frustrated at the lack of security at home, to flee to Western Europe. Several hundred Gypsies have sought asylum in Ger-

many in the last two years. There has so far been no action on appeals to the Czechs to change the law and bring it into line with the standards of the Zdenek Matejka, a government

Martin Bennett, the

owner of Charlotte's

near the Marble Arch in

London, celebrating the

sale of the entire contents

of his furnishings shop to

a shelkh from Qatar who

misread the sale sign and offered a half-million

dollars for the store's

owner of a large

shopping complex.

stock. The merchandise

will be shipped to Qatar, where the sheikh is the

Council of Europe, of which the citizenship expert, said that Czech Republic is a member.

Critics say this is partly because Mr. Havel has been unwilling to push to change a law Czech voters. Ladislav Zamboj, a social

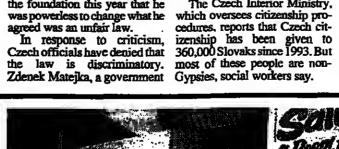
worker with the Tolerance Foun-dation, said Mr. Havel had told the foundation this year that he was powerless to change what he agreed was an unfair law. In response to criticism,

benefits were conditioned on a permanent residence card, and not on citizenship. In practice, however, social

before giving benefits.
The Czech Interior Ministry,

# medical and unemployment

workers say that residence cards are difficult to obtain and that government agencies demand evidence of citizenship





# The Islamist Victory

Few countries are as strategically important to American interests around the world as Turkey. During the Cold War, land frontier with the Soviet Union. Since the Soviet collapse, Turkey's pro-Western leaders have promoted it as a bastion of secular democracy in the Muslim Middle East, a strategic counterweight to Iran. But Turkey, which is a NATO member and aspires to be a member of the European Union, has never quite lived up to its ambitions, or Washington's. It has waged a brutal war against its Kurdish minority and its human rights record is abysmal. Now its secular character is under siege.

The militantly Islamic Welfare Party finished first in Sunday's elections, its strongest showing ever, opening a difficult new phase in Turkish politics. Even though the party drew only 21 percent of a fractured vote, it invokes the Muslim faith professed by 98 percent of Turkey's people. Its success threatens the long-term viability of the secular republic established 72 years ago by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. The party's gains also threaten Turkey's international and economic policies since the party is hostile to NATO, Europe, Israel and entrepreneurial capitalism.

The party has material as well as spiritual appeal for Turkey's urban poor, its greatest base of strength. In Ankara and Istanbul, both of which it has governed since early last year, the party has offered cheap bread, health clinics and other social services desperately needed by hundreds of thousands of recent migrants from the countryside. These include many Kurds who have fled fierce army repression in their home region. Local governments controlled by the Welfare shelters and bave campaigned against services, but time is running short. Western-influenced art and culture.

Washington valued its large army and long right coalition and hint that the military could somehow step in to defend Ataturk's secular legacy. The secular parties would do better to reach out to Welfare's voters with social programs, po-litical dialogue and a balt to military pressure against Kurdish civilians.

Prime Minister Tansu Ciller, who resigned Monday, pressed for Turkey's integration into the European Union to reinforce Ankara's ties to the West. Two weeks ago, the European Parliament, with an eye to helping secularists in the election, overlooked its objections to Turkish buman rights abuses and approved a customs union. But the voters seemed to care less about Europe than their own economic survival, made harder by the austerity policies international lenders have driven

Ankara to pursue. The Welfare Party's leader is Necmettin Erbakan, a former deputy prime min-ister and a wily veteran of Turkey's political wars. In the 1970s, he led an earlier Islamic party into a governing coalition with the Social Democrats, the first breach in Ataturk's secular wall. Since then he has advocated friendship with Iraq, hostility to Israel and Europe and hard-line support for Turkisb rule in Cyprus.

His most formidable enemy is the army, which sees itself as the guardian of Ataturk's legacy. After the military took power in 1980, it convicted Mr. Erbakan of trying to set up an Islamic state.

Neither military repression nor the narrowly based economic boom of the 1980s has slowed Islamic political gains in Turkey. It is not too late to demilitarize Party have also closed battered women's the Kurdish conflict and expand social -THE NEW YORK TIMES.

# Misery as Propaganda

A study commissioned by the UN Food for the children of the losers. But Saddam and Agriculture Organization estimates that a half-million Iraqi children have died because of the international economic sanctions in effect since the end of the Gulf War. To this stunning toll must be added the malnutrition and disease affecting the many others, children and adults, who are still alive. It adds up to a second Gulf war of historic proportions — a war whose immense civilian casualties apparently fall most conspicuously upon the young.

But that is not the sum of it. The po-

litically and morally defining feature of this second Gulf war is oot the extent of the casualties but that they are being inflicted in what amounts to an undeclared and unequal civil conflict. On one side, fully armed and fully ready to apply its arms, is the regime of Saddam Hussein. On the other, completely disarmed, are its citizens, involuntary recruits in a war that could be recognized as an exercise in savagery on the model that stopped trying to gain the means to avenge Stalin and Hitler cooducted against their his Gulf War humiliation. Any question of geople in their time.

Some good-hearted people in the West and some Arab and Islamic sympathizers against the reality of his continuing murcan regularly be heard calling on the winners of the Gulf War to have a heart —THE WASHINGTON POST.

Hussein could instantly ease the plight of his population. Trade restrictions on Iraq permit the licensed entry of food, medical supplies and humanitarian aid. The UN Security Council has offered Baghdad opportunities to sell oil under its supervisioo to pay for such civilian needs, but Mr. Saddam has refused, saying these plans would infringe on Iraqi sovereignty. In short, it is entirely by his decision that a half-million Iraqi children, if that is the right oumber, may be gone.

The point is not simply to engage in a contest of words with the Iraqi dictator. His readiness to countenance mass death and suffering among his people provides the keenest available clues to his thinking about his adversaries. The man who uses the death of Iraqi children as a propaganda display is the same man who, according to the indefatigable UN commission that tracks his weapons-building, has never whether he would be ready to use weapons of terror against foreigners dissolves

# States' Burden

The Republicans say one of their goals in cutting the budget is to transfer power sharply cut projected federal Medicaid to the states, and so they would. But a spending, let the states cut their share as recent report on states' finances is a re- well, and at the same time limit Medicare minder that they would be shifting a major spending in such a way as to add to the burden as well. It's not clear the states burden on Medicaid, which is the backup would have the resources to take it on.

Medicaid is at the heart of the federalmajor element of state budgets. The recent ucation remained the same despite al report by the Center for the Study of the a 7 percent increase in enrollment. States at the State University of New York says that in fiscal 1990, Medicaid was 9.1 percent of state spending. By 1994 it had reached 12.8 percent, a 40 percent rise.

Some of that increase was the result of accounting games and the states' own doing. Because the feds pay a little more than half of Medicaid costs, the states shifted into the Medicaid program all kinds of services they had provided on their own, including some phantom services whose only purpose was to jack up the federal matching grant. But caseloads and health care costs were rising sharply as well. The Medicaid caseload increase through this period is all that kept the number of uninsured in the country from rising even faster than it did and putting even more pressure on state and local governments and the health care industry to provide so-called uncompensated care.

The Republicans, bowever, would burden on Medicaid, which is the backup program of the two.

The center notes in its report that Medstate relationship. The federal government now provides more than a fifth of the money state and local governments have available to spend each year. The federal share of Medicaid is more than a third of the more of the burden was shifted to this, by far the largest share — and Medicaid in turn is easily the fastest-growing going to elementary and secondary edrapidly rising tuition — and the share ucation remained the same despite almost

> The argument is that if the states have greater flexibility, they will be able to provide health care for the poor with greater efficiency and at lower cost. No doubt if the budget is cut there will be some of that. But the likelihood is that cuts as large as the Republicans propose can't be absorbed at the state level. The hard choices at the state level will only be intensified; the federal budget problem will be solved at state expense. If the states are already having to choose between increasing nuition at state colleges and providing health care for the poor, what are they going to be doing — particularly those with the greatest problems — when the flow of federal funds is sharply cut? Neither the Republicans nor those govemors who want the greater flexibility have answered that basic question.

- THE WASHINGTON POST.



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# EDITORLALS/OPINION

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# Turkish Elections Complicate U.S. Bosnia Strategy

WASHINGTON — Bill Clinton and Bob Dole were of course not candidates in the national parliamentary elections in Turkey on Sunday. But the political fates of the president and the Republican front-runner may have been grazed by that distant balloting, in which

Islamic fundamentalists scored big gains. The ricochet passes through Bosnia and the gathering struggle between President Clinton and Senator Dole over the training and equipping of the Bosnian Army during the year in which 20,000 U.S. troops are to keep the peace in the Balkans.

Mr. Dole has long favored direct U.S. military logistical help for the Bosnian government. His pressure helped force the administration into a still hazy commitment to arm and train the Bosnian Army to defend itself in the future. Without that commitment to level the battlefield, Mr. Clinton's decision to send troops to Bosnia. would not have been politically sustainable in Congress or in public opinion.

But the Pentagon refuses to have American troops provide arms and training while they separate the warring Serbian, Croatian and Muslim forces. Mixing those roles would expose U.S. troops to open Serbian hostility and harm, the Pentagon argues. By Jim Hoagland

Instead, the administration proposes that

Turkey manage the train-and-arm effort.
The Dec. 24 Turkish election casts a shadow over that strategy that the Clinton administration would be reckless to ignore. Having displayed boldness in achieving the Dayton accord and deploying American troops into Bosnia over the Christmas season, the administration must now tread warily as it sorts out the role of U.S. troops in Bosnia. So must Mr. Dole.

Turkey's fundamentalists did not win the election. But they got 21 percent, the largest score of any party, and became an important, strongly anti-American force in Turkish politics. Turkey's secular parties expect to form a coalition to keep the fundamentalists out of the government. But the government will now constantly be looking over its shoulder at the Islamists. It is unclear if the White House ever believed the Turkish option was a real answer to the resolution.

answer to the problems created by the Pentagon's refusal to undertake "arm and train." Turkey was for some a convenient way of promising that somebody else would take care of those problems.

By John Chipman

But some senior policymakers have long argued that Turkey is the most important post-Cold War "front-line state" and must be anchored more solidly in the West

through expanded military cooperation. The election returns underline how difficult a task that is. The administration must be careful to avoid trying to "help" Turkey by drawing it more deeply into Bosnia and asking it to take on major responsibilities there. Pursuing those objectives would guarantee "mission creep" of the most disastrous kind - taking on larger, unavowable pobtical commitments

beyond immediate battlefield aims. Mission creep numed Somalia into a political disaster for this administration. In looking at Bosnia, the Clinton administration must think Europe, not Middle East. Bosnia is not an existential issue for Turkey and the other Islamic countries, their rhetoric to the contrary notwithstanding. It is such a question for Europe, which must be willing and able to take on the

set for the withdrawal of U.S. troops. Mr. Dole favors the United States' using its troops to arm and train the Bosnians as their primary task, despite the opposition

dominant security responsibility for Bosnia

after the one-year deadline Mr. Clinton has

from the Pentagon and the Europeans. His exit strategy is to bring the Bosnians up to military parity and hope that deters the Serbs and Croats after the Americans leave. Politically, Mr. Dole has the better argument, especially in the wake of the Turkish elections. Unilaterally aiding the Bosnians appeals both to logic and honor far more directly than does the unconvincing Clinton effort to subcontract arming and training the Bosnians to the Islamic world while winking at the Serbs.

But Mr. Dole will be vulnerable to criticism if he does push the Pentagon into a mission it opposes and things then go badly in Bosnia. There are risks for him in pushing an activist, committed U.S. role too far, too fast.

The Dayton accord forbids any arms imports into Bosnia for the first 90 days after the Dec. 14 formal signing. Mr. Clinton and Mr. Dole should agree now to use that delay to come to a common understanding on how Americans get our of Bosnia and what follows their exit. Such an understanding could ensure that their political interests, and the U.S. national interest, emerge from Bosnia without unnecessary harm.

Washington Post Writers Group.

# Israeli-Syrian Talks Seek to Blaze a New Path Around Obstacles

London — The assassina-Yitzhak Rabin served as a form of shock therapy for President Hafez Assad of Syria. Previously, Israeli leaders' claims that there was not universal domestic support for the exchange of territory

for peace were treated as mere

negotiating ploys.

But the circumstances of Mr. Rabin's death convinced Mr. Assad that he should, as he told Western leaders in private, approach a renewal of peace discussions with creativity and

Sensing his own mortality (his health is not good) and the little time that remains before Israeli elections — which might bring to power a government unwilling to withdraw from the Golan Heights - Mr. Assad has decided to test just bow keen the Shimoo Peres government is oo peace.

The latest round of talks between the two countries, which began Wednesday near Washington, will also test just what ini-tiative and artistry Mr. Assad has allowed his negotiators,

Mr. Peres, on assuming the mantle of prime minister, offered Mr. Assad the negotiating forum of his choice: secret talks, talks between leaders, large or small negotiating teams, talks mediated by the United States or strictly bilateral talks. This was an offer difficult to

refuse. The talks in the United States, which will involve some U.S. mediation, will set the agenda for further discussions and the methods for dealing with the state of borders is closely an "Israeli-mandated" reconfigure of the issue of borders is closely an "Israeli-mandated" reconfigure of the israelis, and it is the issue of borders is closely an "Israeli-mandated" reconfigure of the israelis, and it is the israelis of th many interlocking issues that a linked to the second problem of uration of their armed forces. peace treaty between Syria and water. They will want an arrange-Israel would entail. The trick will be finding a for-

on one issue from blocking discussions on others, and which would build toward a comprehensive agreement that incorporates compromises across issue areas.

In roughly ascending order of negotiating difficulty, there are five major problems to solve.

• The first is the problem of

borders. The Israelis are likely to insist that in the event of a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights, the final borders should be the "international borders," a line drawn in 1923 in Britishmandated Palestine and slightly different from the 1949 armistice line. The Syrians, for their part. will want to see the borders of June 4, 1967, that is, the area that Syria controlled before Israel occupied the Golan. Israel will in response argue that this border is oot really a border because it was never demarcated.

To return to the status quo before the 1967 Six Day War will therefore require detailed discussions on territory, since some of the areas that Syria controlled at the time were gained in skirmisbes between the Israelis and the Syrians in the 1950s and 1960s. This is a fact that the Israelis will use, to the annoyance of the Syrians, in claiming that in the spirit of the negotiations, territory gained by the use of force should oot count in the claim-

actual border, the introduction of many more people and animals into an area newly controlled by Syria might lead to the contam-ination of water or to the Syrians' drawing more than their "fair share." The water issue will therefore also require careful negotiation and perhaps some form

of international guarantees. • The security issue is even more complex. Much attention has been focused on the Israeli demand for an early-warning station on the Golan. The previous talks foundered on this point. The Syrians may now accept an early-warning station manned by the Americans, though the traditional Israeli fear of mortgaging the country's security to a third power, no matter how close, and an American reluctance to have U.S. soldiers play a trip-wire role may work against this compromise.

More important will be the actual balance of forces agreement. The Israelis will wish to have the Syrians prohibited from deploying close to the Golan and will argue not merely for their redeployment toward the north but for their restructuring, so that they have much less beavy armor that could be moved to the new border. But the Israeli argument that, since the Syrian-Israeli border will be only 3 percent of Syria's frontier and should therefore have a corresponding percentage of Syrian • For Mr. Assad, the important armed force deployed near it, will

• The pace of an eventual with-

or even a two-and-a-half-year period might be acceptable to Syria, particularly since there is tacit agreement to coordinate the pace of withdrawal with the intensity of normalization. The Syrians are not keen to quickly see an Israeli flag flying in Damascus and hordes of Israeli tourists descending on Aleppo and Palmyra. The Israelis, particularly under their visionary prime minister, would be unhappy with a "cold peace" that gave them no confidence in the new arrangements.

Defining normalization will be a heady challenge.

• Ultimately, the most difficult challenge will be bringing the Lebanese into the discussions. The Lebanese, whose foreign policy in the area is but an echo of-Syria's, want to see withdrawal of Israeli forces from their land in compliance with UN Resolution 425. Israel will do so only when assured it is free of the risk of Hezbollah attacks, The Syrians are the key to ensuring the even-tual disarmament of Hezbollah in return for peace. Syria retains 40,000 troops in Lebanon and a desire to keep the country in its sphere of influence. The principal Israeli requirement is security. Is-

suzerainty in Lebanon. But would it be good for Israel to achieve its own security at the price of Lebanese independence? And what would be the value, in security terms, of a deal on the Golan that nevertheless implicitly

rael may withdraw from the south

and accept continued Syrian

element of the negotiations, for Israeli public. Syria sees itself as a major Arab ment that does not have the Syrians in complete control of the Previously the Syrians seemed to and one that has helped to return mat that ensures all major issues waters of Lake Tiberias (the Sea can be discussed simultaneously, of Galilee). There is a great Israeli year. While the Israelis might now normality. Israel will not be able, ment to the International Herald which would prevent a deadlock fear, in any case, that whatever the agree to a fast withdrawal, a two- and may not want, to place too Tribune.

many conditions on Syria's activity in Lebanon. For these reasons, the Lebanese, who cannot have direct, public negotiations with the Israelis for fear of Syrian censure, are concerned that in the upcoming peace discussions their country will be on the table

but oot at it. Syria and Israel have both made a strategic choice for peace. Their negotiations may not be so complex as the ones between Isracl and the Palestinians that culminated in the Oslo accords. However, Israel will be involved in "final status" negotiations with the Palestinians by May 1996; the pace of the negotiations with Syria will therefore have to be fast if a Syrian-Israeli accord is not to be horribly enmeshed in the requirements of the intense and sensitive negotiations with

In the next few weeks, the world will know if President Assad can give his negotiating team the authority and latitude to make a completionsive peace. He wants a bester deal than Egypt got at Camp David and a better deal than the Palestinians got

But he needs a team of expert negotiators, and be needs to give them power. If he micromanages the peace, he may not get it and if he makes too much a virtue of his renowned patience, he may run

As for Israel, it needs to make the best of the multiple issu negotiation it has offered the Syrians will be sensitive to the allowed Syria unrestricted move. Syrians if this peace, which will require tough compromises, is This may be the most sensitive to be sold to a still skeptical

> The writer, director of the International Institute for Strate-

# How to Succeed in Business: 10 New Year's Resolutions for China

BANGKOK — The year 2000, which is supposed to herald the start of the much-hyped 'Pa-cific Century,' is less than 1,500 days away. But as the date approaches, there is concern that it may be more a Sinified

The hardheaded business leaders who attended the recent Pacific Rim forum — a prestigious annual gathering of East Asia's business community — want evidence that as China grows strong, it will also grow

more sensible. Businesspeople want to see real evidence that Chinese nationalism will be constrained by economic interdependence. China's behavior in 1995 in Hong Kong, the South China Sea and, especially, in the Taiwan Strait has them worried.

So what resolutions could China make to put hearts at ease

First, China could show its willingness to accept the constraints of interdependence by cutting its average tariff level from 36 percent to 15 percent the norm for developing countries. If this were reinforced with cuts in import quotas, the abolition of tax rebates for exporters and clear movement to World Trade Organization standards for the operation of foreign enterprises in China, then Western businesses and governments would be impressed.

Until Beijing takes such steps. a strong suspicion will remain that China wants entry into the WTO without the constraints of interdependence.

Second, China should abide by economic agreements it has already signed. Continued massive violations of the 1995 intellectual property accord with the United States is likely to lead to retaliation by Washington in 1996. Pirated software sales in China as a percentage of total software sales stand at 98 percent and By Gerald Segal

Brazil's level of 77 percent. In to agree in 1996, leaving China Britain, the level is 43 percent. as the last holdout. Foreign businesses want to Seventh, China might finally know that China's signature on economic agreements actually means something. There is already much concern that corruption is undermining a virmally nonexistent domestic

legal system. Third, China might finally fulfill its often-stated promise to ac-

Nationalism needs to be constrained by economic interdependence.

cept full international cooversion of its currency. The Chinese economy could then be held to standards of good economic management by the international money markets.

threatening Taiwan with military ahead of the Taiwan presidential election in March would suggest that Beijing is no more prepared to let the island, which it regards genuinely live according to "one

country — two systems,"
Fifth, China might cease taking disputed islands in the South China Sea where it has overlapping claims with Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei. Or is it really not prepared to negotiate matters of sovereignty, and does it see the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea only as something to govern how others relate to what is to be owned and

controlled by China? Sixth, Beijing could agree to a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty that really meant no texting of could at least come down to nuclear weapons. Russia is likely

agree to play a positive role in international security by beginning to take a major part in UN peacekeeping. The experience of putting its troops under foreign command would be a demonstration of military transparency and help build confidence about Chinese intentions.

Eighth, Beijing could publish its promised "white paper" on defense policy. If the paper were to tell the world something it did not know, or confirmed what are so far only Western guesses about the real level of Chinese defense spending, it would in-crease China's credibility. The so-called white paper on arms control issued in November by Beijing is merely a compilation of official Chinese news agency handouts. Ninth, China could accept for-

eign human rights delegations Fourth, China could stop and allow them to go where they wanted, whenever they wanted. A force. Missile ranting, or worse, country with nothing to hide should have no fear. Tenth, China might stop

banning foreign academics who write critical articles. Behaving as a rebel province, retaio its own as if it has something to hide does system than it is to let Hong Kong not suggest the ruling Communist regime has much confidence in itself. Of course, compared to when

the nation started its economic reforms in 1978, China has accepted some constraints of interdependence. Beijing has abandoned support for revolutionary

> Leners intended for pullication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature. name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be respansible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

movements, opened its economy to foreigners and foreign trade and signed the Nuclear Nonproiferation Treaty.

But do Chinese leaders really understand that interdependence is not a one-time concession to common sense? It needs to be an ever-increasing commitment to let social, economic and even military policy be set to an important degree in agreement with foreigners.
Thus China needs to realize

that even if it met all 10 tests, it would be asked for more. Tariffs and quotas would have to be eliminated so that there could be "free trade' by 2020 as agreed by APEC, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, of which China is a member. Beijing would also be expected to let foreign

rency. It would have to abide by a much wider range of arms control agreements and accept constraints on its actions that affect the headwaters of the Mekong River, which flows from southern. China into Southeast Asia. By January 1997, if we are

lucky, China will have scored at least five out of 10. If the evaluation date is extended to mid-1997, when the Pacific Rim forum next meets in Hong Kong. participants will be able to observe the handover of the colony to Chinese rule and make some judgments of their own.

The writer, a senior fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies and director of Britain's Pacific Asia Program contributed this comment to the banks deal in the Chinese cur- International Herald Tribune.

# IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

PARIS - A society has been

formed with the object of propagating and popularizing the methods of the Pasteur Institute in medical treatment. It is entitled the Société d'Application des Methodes Pastoriennes and the articles of association were duly signed on Thursday [Dec. 26]. The objects of the society include the acquisition of numbers 22, 24, 26 and 28 of the me Dutot with the object of erecting there a hospital where inoculation treatment will be made a specialty. The duration of the society is fixed for 99 years and has a capital of 10,000 francs.

1920: Pastor Pummeled

DETROIT — The Reverend Harry G. Miley, pastor of St. Paul's English Evangelical Church, was set upon by a crowd as he left the church yesterday [Dec. 25] with

1895: Healthy Company The crowd mistook him for a thief. and he was sorely beaten before he could reveal his identity.

#### 1945: Assembly Scare PARIS - The National Con-

stituent Assembly was thoroughly unseated during the course of a heated debate on courtroom reform yesterday [Dec. 27] when a twenty-five-year-old Romanian student leaped from one of the spectator's galleries to the Assembly floor brandishing a saber and shouting that he had come to deliver France. Later identified as Vuccino Romaine Dominique; be was carried off for a mental examination while excited deputies argued whether he had said that he was a son of Julius Caeser, the Emperor Charles or descendant of Louis the Seventeenth All agree agreed on one point, however. The sword and its brandishing appeared to be very real during the Communion Cups under his the brief departure from Parliaarms and started burrying home. mentary procedure.

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**OPINION/LETTERS** 



# When Private Conversation Should Remain Private

By Edwin M. Yoder Jr.

WASHINGTON — Just what resemblance to Richard Nixon's mous notes will reveal about the Beyond that, anyone who dares Whitewater affair is, at this writing, anybody's guess. They may prove to be the biggest bust in disclosure since the Wizard of Oz was unveiled by Dorothy and Toto.

The first of the state of the s

Mr. Kennedy, an associate White House counsel at the time, took these notes at a 1993 meeting which the Clinton administration now describes as a "handover" of the troublesome Whitewater portfolio from White House lawyers to President Bill Clinton's personal lawyers.

Their fame, or infamy, derives from the curiosity of Senators Alfonse D'Amato and Lauch Faircloth, two Republicans who have obsessively pursued the notes in an interminable fishing expedition, saying that they could show that White House aides improperly provided confidential information. about two government investigations to those personal lawyers.

The White House denied that, and had refused to turn over the notes, saying they were protected by lawyer-client and executive privileges. But Mr. D'Amato finally shook the papers loose last week by persuading the Senate to threaten Mr. Kennedy with contempt of Congress proceedings.

und Obje

In at least one respect, the episode is richly instructive. It shows again that the ghosts of Watergate still haunt the impoverished imaginations of small-bore inquisitors like Mr. D'Amato and Mr. Faircloth, and their journalistic allies. At the root of it all is the familiar post-Watergate impulse to criminalize normal politics.

free to discuss any political hazard closure would dampen and discourto their boss. As we know, even age that candor. frivolous and unfounded access. The wentily sermetic climate of tions in the press can hunt press, the White House is well known to idential effectiveness.

Here, however, the ghosts of Was idents and their whims and impulses.

tergate invariably set up a great Any practice that encourages brac-mosning and clanking of chains. In. ing advice should be welcomed as a Watergate, there was indeed a huge contribution to sense and sanity.

Contribution to sense and sanity.

Kings liad their truth-telling co the processes of justice. So far, no evidence has been offered that any of the gatherings in the Clinton White House (such as the one where Mr. Kennedy took the notes) has had any such nefarious purpose. Yet imagined parallels persist, even when no one can cite the slightest

Beyond that, anyone who dares breathe the word "privilege" in the White House, whether the reference is to ordinary lawyer-client confi-dentiality or to the more pottentous "executive privilege," rouses the same ghosts. Not the least of President Nixon's crimes was to pervert useful legal terminology by asso-ciating it with the concealment of a

compt and illegal enterprise.
There was a time before Watergate, however, when citations of gate, however, when citations of privilege were the province of virthe. "Executive privilege" was born in the Justice Department in the early 1950s in an effort to counteract Senator Joseph R. McCarthy's demagogic disruption of executive department business. The executive department business. The idea was and is to throw a mantle of confidentiality around that business, especially the confidential ad-

vice a president seeks from his of-ficial enfourage.

If would appear from scholarly explorations of the idea by Telford Taylor and Raoul Berger (who calls Taylor and Raoul Berger (who cause executive privilege 'a constitutional myth') that executive privilege is constitutionally questionable. It has yet to receive judicial approval, save in a few modelled lines by the lane Chief Justice Warren Burger when the Supreme Court, saying privilege must yield to the needs of a criminal trial forced Mr. Nixon to produce the Watergate tapes.

But the notion itself is of immease practical value. Executive confidentiality of a broad character. whatever one calls it, has its place. Stripped of legalistic folderol, it

is the notion that a president should Articles about the notes never explain privilege, which is why a president a aides (lawyers or not) are not sumed that the risk of forced dis-

Kings had their truth-telling court jesters and popes their private con-fessors. A president, for the same reason, should have relief from yes men. And he won't have if the likes of Senators D'Amato and Faircloth can poke their noses into every White House conversation. Washington Post Writers Group



# Tokyo Christmas, 1945

By Al Rossum

faces. The three of us had hitched a times with fish, but no meat. We ride on a military truck from our base to central Tokyo.

We passed miles of destroyed houses. Jerry-built shacks were rising among the ruins. Fires burned in hibachis, Franklin stoves or open hearths, tended by

#### MEANWHILE

the only clothes they had, uniforms or kimonos. The smell of smoke. cooking and sewage was everywhere. The only objects higher than a man were telephone poles and a few tall buildings near the emper-or's palace, deliberately spared.

We headed for the main market near the railroad station, where we could trade our cigarettes and chocolate rations for soovenirs, local "whiskey," sake and beer. We

The European Invasion

Regarding "Out of Old Europe, Endlessly Pining for Bygone Glo-ry" (Meanwhile, Dec. 19):

I am sorry to discover that Amer-

icans like Liesl Schillinger think their

country is so weak that a movie about

a butler can be responsible for its

economic, social and moral deteri-

oration. And products from Europe

are flooding into a capitalist society

willing to pay for the trappings of a vanished elegance? Shocking!
But maybe I should pine about the

increasingly explicit violence that the American movie industry floods

Europe with, oot to mention the highly nutritious fast food outlets

popping up at an hourly rate. Give

PARIS — An icy wind blew a ate at street stalls selling vegetable and rice or noodle dishes, somewere lucky enough to find a merchant who sold us hand-sewn silk clothes, embroidered with dragons, for our families.

We had our portraits painted on silk squares by a street artist. Trouble arose when we discovered that he insisted on giving us blue eyes the Japanese symbol of the gaijin, foreign savages — regardless of our natural color. Only threats of non-payment made him change his mind. I still have the portrait, my brown eyes rimmed and backed with blue. We saw notices in Japanese and English about a performance of Handel's "Messiah." Fortunately, the theater was nearby, for there were no street signs.

The theater was missing half its roof. Crammed into small seats made for Japanese, bags full of shopping loot in our laps, hunched down in our bulky GI overcoats, our scarves pulled op over our faces, our hats pulled down as far as possible against the cold, we passed around a bottle of "Scotch" as amifreeze. Thus equipped, we enjoyed a concert but a choir made up of Iscert by a choir made up of Japanese and Americans.

Upon leaving, it was dark as well

#### A 'Silent Night' in a reawakening land.

as cold. For a few minutes, we were tempted to seek false warmth in the red-lanterned "floating" district, but we finally decided to return to the main railroad station, and home. We were pushed into our train along with a mass of Japanese. Feeling oo pain or cold, thanks to whiskey and human warmth, we started singing Christmas carols.

Europe another decade and we will After a few minutes, we were be pining about inheriting the obeconscious of a gentle tugging at our sleeves. Looking down, we saw three Japanese women, dressed in The problem is, if I were to blame colorful kimooos.

One said in English; "Please, che said in English. Please, sirs, may we sing with you? We are Christians and it has been years since we could sing these songs."

And so our day ended with "Silent Night," sung to an aston-

ished and uncomprehending crowd of Japanese travelers by three Japanese women and three Amer-ican soldiers.

The author, a writer in Paris. contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### What the OECD Can Do

Regarding 'Together We Need Balanced Counsel to Guide Our Sovereignties' (Opinion, Dec. 20) by Georges Berthoin: Many people in favor of creating a coordinating forum for market

economies or a merger of all "ob-solete" international institutions have failed to see that a strong instrument for policy dialogue and coordination already exists: the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Only the 25-member OECD, with its dialogue with non-member countries and its analytical capacity and expertise, is equipped to be the "germ" of the post-hegemonic system the wise men are seeking. The OECD is the only relevant

economic global body where all the major players can meet in a confidential setting of a "members on-' club. It is a network for goveraments, the business world and academics. Together the OECD and the Group of Seven industrialized nations could play a prominent role in helping the world meet the chal-

lenges of the new order. The OECD can also help national leaders deal with current problems and avoid future ones as well as spur them to coherent discussions on strategic choices. Thus the OECD can promote coordinated long-term decision-making in our capitals -

and encourage nations to learn from one another's mistakes. PASI RUTANEN.

The writer is Finland's ambas-

sador to the OECD. **Preventive Measurements** 

Regarding "For Preventive Action Against Man-Made Disaster" (Opinion, Dec. 12):
J. Brian Atwood'a article makes a

powerful case for preventive action to forestall violent and possibly genocidal conflicts. Such preventive action could take the form of development aid to reduce poverty and memployment and increase access to basic services, measures that are both more humane and cheaper than coping with war. It could have belped in Rwanda, and could still belp in Burundi.

But the question Mr. Atwood does not answer is why such an obvious policy of prevention rather than cure is not being followed. However obvious and impressive the case for prevention may be to the professional economist or average person, it still seems far from obvious to our politicians and civil servants.

That is because they are being asked to act before the war has actually happened. If the preventive action is successful, they will be criticized that their action was unnecessary because no war happened.

What we need is objective in-dicators that quantitatively measure the chances of conflict. Mr. Atwood makes a start in mentioning a correlation between a country'a vulnerability to collapse and high infant mortality and other factors. May we hope that Mr. Atwood's organization, the U.S. Agency for International Development, will address itself to this problem?

REGINALD GREEN. SIR HANS SINGER. Brighton, England.

#### Paying for the Rich

greater income equality as having a fallacious assumption that when the rich pull more of the blanket over themselves, the poor have less."

themselves with salary, options and boouses to larger multiples of companies' average salaries than elsewhere in the world. Despite Mr. Dale's argument, someone has to pay for this largesse: either customers through higher prices (which is uncompetitive) or shareholders though lower corporate earnings and value (which is unsustainable). DAVID RIVINGTON.

a name for the change; cent, pfennig, pence, ore or what?

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Regarding "Inequality, or Just a Competitive Edge?" (Dec. 19) by Reginald Dale:

Mr. Dale misses a salient point when he dismisses advocates of

American chief executives show-

#### American influence for Europe's economic and social slump, I would sound just like Ms. Schillinger: pathetically pining for bygone glory. JOHN ELBEN.

sity gene from Americans.

What's a Tenth of a Euro? Euro, OK. But nobody seems to have thought of, let alone discussed,

AKE DANIELSSON.

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# HEALTH/SCIENCE

#### IN BRIEF

#### Studying the Cause of Alzheimer's

WASHINGTON (WP) - Alzheimer's disease may be the price humans pay for the ability of brain cells to recover after they are injured.

William Wallace and colleagues at the National Institute on Aging's Baltimore laboratory and at the Bronx VA Medical Center reported at the American Society for Cell Biology's annual meeting that the "amyloid precursor protein," implicated as a cause of Alzheimer's, may be part of the brain's normal system for restoring function lost when a brain cell is damaged.

A common finding in brains of Alzheimer's victims is clumps of accumulated material called "senile plaques," made up largely of fragments of the protein. It is not clear how - or whether - the plaques cause Alzheimer's but the implication is strong.

#### Malaria Parasite and Pregnancy

WASHINGTON (WP) - Scientists in Kenya have discovered a form of malaria parasite that specifically infects pregnant women, binding to cells in blood vessels of the placenta. There it can retard growth of the fetus, causing low birth weight and even fetal death. Other forms of the parasite already were known to bind

to blood vessels in other parts of the body.

Michael Fried and Patrick Duffy of the U.S. Army Medical Research Unit and the Kenya Medical Research Institute reported that their finding explains a once-puzzling observation. It was known that pregnant women were especially vulnerable to malaria because the immune system is normally suppressed during pregnancy. But the greater risk applied only to first and second pregnancies. Dr. Fried and Dr. Duffy said their finding suggests why. After getting the placenta-binding form of malaria once or twice, the women's immune systems formed antibodies to attack it. By the second or third pregnancy, they were immune.

#### **Hormone Level Linked to Ovarian Cancer**

CHICAGO (AP) - A new study links relatively high or low levels of certain hormones to ovarian cancer, raising questions about using hormone therapies to lessen the risk of other ills.

'I think we need to really lonk at what is happening with our own hormones before we jump into trying to manipulate them." said the lead researcher, Dr. Kathy J. Helzlsouer of Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health. The findings. published in The Journal of the American Medical Association,

don't suggest that curreotly available bormone therapies be withdrawn, only that doctors proceed cautiously with new ones.

Dr. Helzlsouer and ber colleagues tracked more than 20,000 women in Washington County, Maryland, for 15 years. Thirty-one cases of ovarian cancer developed in women who were oot taking hormones when they began the study and gave blood samples in 1974. Their blood was compared with that of 62 cancer-free women

among the sample who also had oot been taking hormones. Ovarian cancer was found to be associated with lower levels of gonadotropins, which stimulate the production of eggs. The cancer was also linked to higher levels of androgens, which stimulate sexual drive.

#### BRIDGE

#### By Alan Truscott

In "Tales Out of School," (available for \$12.95 from The Bridge World, 39 West 94th Street, New York, N.Y., 10025, USA.) David Silver is an instructor at the fictional Mohican College. He teaches remedial English in a class called Bridge cash. 101 while contending that bridge mined syntax." and that lan- you will have to read the book. guage skills are enhanced by learning "a semantic subset of

the English language."
The hilarious proceedings reach a climax when the author plays against the Devil to determine his afterlife home.

On the diagramed deal Silver is South, playing three no-trump redoubled with the Devil on his right. North is an overbidder, and the Devil's double suggests that he has knowledge of the hand.

A spade is led to the queen. and Silver has to decide whether or not to hold up. He does so, which is right when East has the heart ace. And he does. It would have been wrong if West had held the heart ace, but that was less likely.

The Devil led his last spade. and West won and played a third round. Unfortunately for Silver, the Devil discarded the heart ace. an appropriately diabolical play. and the declarer was, literally, doomed. There was no way to take more than two heart tricks without conceding the lead to the hand with two spade winners to

That meant a penalty of 400 building is based on a "close and a step on the road to hell. To vocabulary and context-deter- discover the result of the match,

> WEST **Q** 5 ♥ A 4 ♥ J 10 7 3 4Q8654 SOUTH ◆ K J 3 ∇ K Q 10 6 ◆ A Q 9 ◆ K 6 7

North Pass 3 N.T. Pass Dbl. Redbl.

West led the spade seven.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

CLASSIFIED

# Weight Remains a Key Culprit in Heart Disease

By Jane E. Brody New York Times Service

EW YORK - Losing weight may be more effective than aerobic exerreduce their risk of heart disease, a study has found.

The study, conducted over nine months among 170 middle-aged and older men, found that a 10 percent reduction in weight was more likely than an exercise program to improve blood-pressure readings, cholesterol levels and the body's ability to process furile cycle, followed by weight reac-blood sugar, all of which influence cumulation." coronary risk.

and older men."

However, in an editorial accompathe American Medical Association, Dr. William Hazzard ooted that the cise in helping obese men study was designed to preveot the men who exercised from losing weight. American sedentary behavior," Dr. Hazzard wrote, is a primary cause of acquired obesity and the coronary risk factors that accompany it. And weight loss without an increase in physical activity is typically doomed, he said, and is "too often the first half of a

A second report in the journal cau-The researchers, led by Dr. Leslie tioned against ignoring overall obesity Katzel at the University of Maryland as a coronary risk factor. Lately, con-School of Medicine, concluded that cern has been focused on people who weight loss is the preferred treatment accumulate excess weight around the to improve coronary artery disease abdomen, the centrally obese, who

2.300 men and women in Manitoba used, both during the activity and beoying a new report in The Journal of found that "noncentral obesity" is not a benign coodition, and in fact may sometimes be as important as central obesity, and sometimes more important, in predicting coronary risk. In the study, both noncentral obesity and central obesity were associated with higher blood pressure and higher cholesterol levels. "Noncentrally obese individuals require continued health education to reduce weight."

> Dr. Dale Gelskey of the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, concluded.
> In most studies, efforts at weight loss have been most likely to produce loog-lasting results when pounds were shed as a result of the subjects eating

the researchers, Dr. Kue Young and

less and exercising more. A regular program of aerobic ex-

coronary risk. But a study of more than thus increase the number of calories tween exercise sessions. Exercise also helps to relieve emotional stress that prompts many people to overeat.

In the Baltimore study, however, the researchers were trying to isolate the separate effects of weight loss and exercise on reducing coronary risk. Therefore, the meo who were assigned to the exercise program were instructed to eat more to maintain their prestudy degree of overweight.

HE study involved healthy men who had no evidence of heart disease, bypertension, diabetes or abnormal cholesterol levels. It compared two highly touted approaches to reducing coronary risk: lowering the men's weight by 10 percent through a diet that cut ercise lower coronary risk.

risk factors in overweight middle-aged face as much as a threefold increase in ercise can raise the metabolic rate and their daily intake by 300 to 500 calo-and older men." week exercise program that raised acrobic capacity by at least 10 percent.

The 44 participants who completed the weight-loss program lost an average of about 20 pounds (9 kilograms) and had significant improvements in blood pressure, cholesterol levels and sugar metabolism.

The 49 men who completed the aerobic exercise program also ended up with lower blood pressure and an improvement in sugar metabolism and cholesterol levels, but the changes were less dramatic than those that resulted from the weight-loss program. In his editorial, Dr. Hazzard said that those who favored exercise to reduce coronary risk "should not be discouraged by these results." He noted that both weight reduction and ex-

# Life With Parkinson's Disease

New York Times Service EW YORK - When Attorney General Janet Reno announced last mooth that she had Parkinsoo's disease, she joined an estimated 500,000 10 l million Americans with this stillmysterious neurological disorder. Each year, about 50,000 people in the United States — most of them over 50 receive a similar diagnosis, based on the presence of symptoms characteristic of the disease and an inability to find any other explanation

Parkinson's disease results from a progressive loss of cells in the brain's motor control center, the substantia nigra. These cells produce a substance called dopamine that transmits oerve messages crucial 10 oormal, fluid movements. Without sufficient dopamine, patients commonly develop tremors, rigid muscles, difficulty in initiating movement, slowness of movement, a stooped posture, a sbuffling gait, loss of balance and sometimes a slurring of speech.

Symptoms are usually minimal at

tremor in her left hand - but gradually get worse over the years. In addition to physical symptoms, depression afflicts some patients -- depression that goes beyond what would be expected

after receiving the bad oews of the diagnosis. And one in three of Parkin-diagnosed just last summer at first son's patients will eventually develop Alzheimer's disease, a rate three times that found in the general population of elderly people.

Parkinsoo's disease is chronic, progressive and incurable. When Reno announced her condition, she expressed confidence in her continued ability to perform her job and, with the aid of medications and following a regimen of self care, to remain vital for many years to come. There are a growing oumber of drugs and still-experimental surgical treatments to slow the progress of the disease and reverse or at least temper many of its symptoms. But Reoo's attitude may very well be her best weapon.

Y aunt, Ruth Tischler, oow in her upper 80s, has had Parkinson's disease for more than 20 years. The diagnosis did not stop her from traveling abroad, attending cultural events and going on shopping expe-ditions that would exhaust a healthy first - Reno's current symptom is a persoo half her age. At 85, though quite deformed by her disease, she gave herself a birthday party attended by friends and family who were en- brain tissue. vious of her indomitable spirit.

A neighbor and friend in her early

became seriously depressed by the prospect of a premature and progressive loss of her ability to cootinue her work as a psychotherapist, sculptor and author. But with the help of medication and counseling, she has shed the crippling yolk of depression and returned to her pursuits, although at a less frenetic pace.

The primary treatment for Parkinson's is levodopa, or l-dopa, which is converted to dopamine in the brain. Unfortunately, 1-dopa tends to lose effectiveness after three to five years, so its use is often delayed and modifications made to keep it active longer. There are also now several drugs that can suppress different symptoms of Parkinsoo's and at least one drug. Electrical coloralists of the coloralists of the coloralists. depryl (selegiline), that may slow its progression. Still other drugs are under study. There are indications that high doses of vitamin E may also delay the progress of the diseas

Surgical possibilities include computer-guided stereotactic surgery in the brain to relieve tremor, a burning out of byperactive neurons in an area of the brain called the pallidum (pallidotomy) and transplants of fetal

Jane E. Brody



# An AIDS-Killer Beckons, but Side Effects Abound

By Gina Kolata New York Times Service

EW YORK searchers discov- fection. ered a new natural defense against the buman im-

stop the AIDS virus in its tracks. On the other hand, as a cadre of substances, called chemokines, are closely linked to a wide variety of serious dis-eases in which the immune system is the culprit, either causing the disease - as in arthritis or same effect. lupus — or in reacting to an infection so strongly that the reaction itself causes serious dam-

In fact, in recent years, drug companies throughout the world have been working furiously to develop drugs to block chemokines.

"Chemokines are a very, very hot family of molecules," said Dr. Charles McKay, director of immunology at Leukosite, a biotechnology company in Cambridge, Massachusetts. 'Almost every major pharmaceutical company has a program looking at the function of chemokines and trying to block

drugs to block these substances. The work on the AIDS virus, HIV, reported this month,
 raised hopes that it might lead When AIDS re- to new treatments for HIV in-

One group of researchers, led by Dr. Robert Gallo, director of munodeficiency virus this the Institute for Human Virolmonth, they stumbled on a para- ogy at the University of Maryland, reported that three chemokines, called Rantes, found substances secreted by MIP-lalpha, and MIP-lbeta, white blood cells that seemed to can completely stop HTV in laboratory experiments.

A second group, led by Dr. immunologists could tell them, Reinhard Kurth, president of the Paul Ehrlich Institute in Langen, Germany, working with monkey cells, reported that a different chemokine. called interleukin 16, had the

But Dr. Gallo said he had nothing about chemokines before making his discovery.

In essence, said Dr. Joost J. Oppenheim, chief of the laboratory of immunoregulation at the National Cancer Institute in Frederick. chemokines "give marching orders to inflammatory cells to go where you need them."

When an inflammation begins, cells release chemokines to call for reinforcements to battle the irritant, which could be anything from a bacteria to a cells that are specialized to fight transplanted organ. Dr. Alan M. Krensky, an im-

realize, upon reading this fine biography by Carlo D'Este, that

in fact George Patton the man is

The subtext here, that Patton

had a genius for war. few would

disagree with. A pioneer of new

create the first American tank

units in World War I and, in the

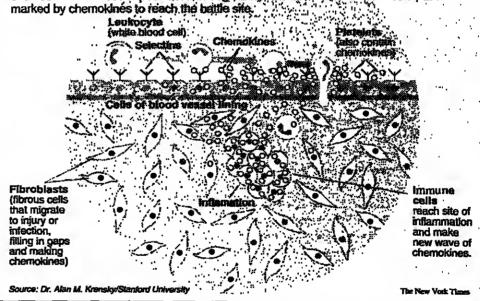
combat in North Africa, Sicily

paign, is ideally suited to take

poorly understood at best.

#### Signposts for Recruits in the Immunity Wars

Substances called chemokines marshall immune cells from the blood and guide them to the site of infection. First, a circulating white blood cell is snagged and slowed to a roll by receptor proteins called selectins. Then chemokines collect at one place on the blood vessel wall and signal the immune cell to adhere and to become abrasive. The traction enables the white cell to push itself through the yessel wall. The cell follows a path



the body sends out different signals depending oo whether it needs to call in immune system

bacteria or viruses or parasites. It is a system that almost al-

sponse. The problem is that any

lead to disease.

If you get a severe inflammation in the lung, you get a oratory research indicates that tremendous release of all kinds chemokines can cause complithem." Leukosite, in fact, was munologist at Stanford Univer- ways works beautifully, and it of chemokines and you can get cations that are worse than the were tested as an AIDS treatformed expressly to develop sity Medical Ceoter, said that is the chemokines that carefully a bell of an inflammatory reinfection they are trying to help ment.

the beauty of the system is that orchestrate the immune re- sponse," Dr. Oppenbeim said. "It can fill your lung with so perturbation in the process can much debris and crud that you can die of suffocation."

In fact, some animal and laboratory research indicates that so new that no one can say what

the body fight. Immunologists say they are not certain what would happen if someone tried to treat HIV infections by back jecting patients chemokines.

. Jerome Groopman, a blood researcher at Harvard Medical School, said he suspected it might be a disaster because chemokines are meant to work locally in the body. If they fight HIV, they do so in the immediate area of an infection. "It's probably a matter of a measured dose of poison," he said.

R. Oppenheim said that when he injected chemokines mice, it cut immune responses. The reason is that the circulating chemokines destroyed the body's ability to notice chemokines released locally. He noted that treating AIDS patients with chemokines 'could make them more susceptible to infections."

On the other hand, immonologists said, it might be possible to stimulate white blood cells to step up their own local production of chemokines to fight HTV, rather than to simply swamp the body with injections of chemokines.

Furthermore, they said, the idea that chemokines might actually have antiviral effects is would happen if the chemicals

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Herald Eribune THE BURLEY HAID NEWSPAPER

A Genius for War By Carlo D'Este. 977 pages.

\$35. HarperCollins. Reviewed by John Prados

EW American generals, at military methods, be helped least of those since the Civil War, have inspired quite as much emotion as General George S. next war, led key formations in Patton Jr. Alternately viewed as a master of mobile warfare, a mar- and Northwest Europe, D'Este, tinet, a knight in shining armor, a author of four works of World icalous and narrow man and an War II history, including books exemplar of military efficiency. on Sicily and the French cam-George Patton triggers a torrent of opinionated comment. Much on the subject of this contromore so than his peers - Dwight D. Eisenhower, often seen as a diplomat in uniform; Omar but competent lieutenant - Patton blazed a trail into the hearts

versial American general. Tracing Patton's lineage to ancestors who played military Bradley, a low-key commander: roles as far back as the French or Courtney Hodges, a plodding and Indian War, D'Este presents an unparalleled portrait of the influences that shaped the man. tales of forebears, many of them on glory rival those of any In particular we discover that graduates of the Virginia Mil-Among World War II U.S. Patton was dyslexic; as D'Este itary Institute, and Civil War

 Marie-Antoinette Valois, director of social affairs at the Catholic Institute of Paris, is "Honeymoon" Patrick Modiano.

"Page after page. I am amazed by the intrigue and mystery." (Charlotte Sector, IHT)



nature of their problem that they Xenophon, tales of Alexander are as good or better than or-dinary people." Certainly, Pat-everything about Napoleon." Years later Patton's own scribton seemed driven, but previous observers have attributed this to blings would be peppered with burning ambition. As for mil- references to the military stars itary bent, there were numerous of antiquity, and his comments Napoleonic memoirist.

Patton attended VMI but Army leaders, probably only puts it, 'dyslexics experience a veterans, not to mention family moved on to West Point, and his Douglas MacArthur is better need to justify to themselves and friends such as John Singleton early career included cavalry known. Thus it is perplexing to those who have no grasp of the Mosby. Patton's aunt read him posts, service with John J. Per-

World War I and a unit command at Fort Myer, all classic Beatrice Banning Ayer, the childhood sweetheart he encountered during summer vacations on California's Catalina Island. Beatrice, various Ayer family members, and Beatrice and George's children are major characters in "Patton: A Genius for War." Viewed less sympathetically, but also a character, is Jean Gordon, who had an affair with Patton in the mid-1930s. which she may (or may not) have resumed in Europe during World War IL

Along with the treatment of Patton the man, more emerges for those who take a jaundiced view of Patton the general. Several incidents that cost Patton dearly, in which he slapped or otherwise harassed soldiers whom he considered shirkers in Sicily or Europe, are well known, But D'Este recounts

shing's Mexican expedition, other instances of petty rulemaking or behavioral extravamand at Fort Myer, all classic gance that evoke the Patton seen experiences in the army of that in "Patton," infamous as the day. Patton met and married movie Richard Nixon warched repeatedly to steel himself for the invasion of Cambodia. This is unfortunate for D'Este, who opens his biography with the expressed intent to distance Parton from "Patton."

Like the tanks, Carlo D'Este moves on to the Battle of the Bulge. Then come the final days of the war, Patton's encounters with Russians, his time as military governor in Bavaria, and his death in 1945, attended by the faithful Beatrice. Carlo D'Este is faithful in rendering the full spectrum of Panon's proclivities, prejudices and potential. "Patton: A Genius for War' could be tinkered with

John Prados, a historian of Washington, wrote this for The

enter the n southern bloss mag Silvi mail on 2 year against he are possessed ist month, an agency My Enron Corp. of Mon and competitors and th Mozambicue to den been plans to cor

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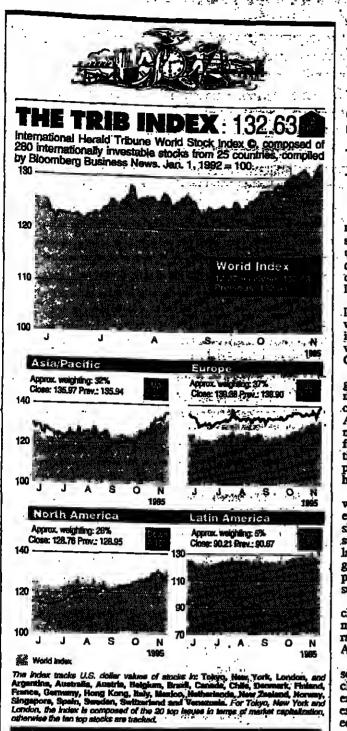
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ppeline (1.300). in comete lunded it can find a problem is that during the are alienteed many of companies that w equisiomer. Some of rated a stake in the pip "lithey don't have a b wild Bank official. erver Enror must fin agek an extension fre The joint venture bet

bom whed energy com opu together, commany hearly feli apart seve doe months as Mczamb passure from the United sau as a bad deal. plou is untikating the hem Africa against if

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but can hardly be surpassed. national security based in Washington Post.



**Data Show Economic** Slowdown In the U.S.

The state of the s

NEW YORK - Two reports released Wednesday showed signs of a weakening U.S. economy, but the government shutdown caused by the political dispute over the budget will de-lay the release of further data. American consumers turned less optimistic in December.

with the consumer confidence index falling to 98.7 from a revised 101.6 in November, the Conference Board reported. The business research roup's widely followed

monthly survey on consumer confidence showed that fewer Americans thought the economic environment was good, fewer thought jobs were plentiful, and fewer planned major purchases such as cars or household appliances.

Some analysts said the index was slightly weaker than expected. But the results were not considered truly surprising, as consumer confidence is tied to the labor market, and with job growth slowing and more com-panies announcing layoffs, consumers are less secure.

Separately, home resales declined 1.7 percent in November, more than expected, to an annual rate of 4.04 million, the National Association of Realtors said.

The decline, the second consecutive fall, suggested that declining mortgage rates were not enough to overcome home buyers' concerns about the slowing economy, analysts said.

Meanwhile, the Conference Board said it expected to release leading indicators for

November in January.
"The availability of this important information hinges on a return to work by the relevant government agencies," it said. 'We currently anticipate that sufficient data will be available in early January." (Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder, AP) termediate products: plastic and linoleum prod-

# Bitter Truth of Tsingtao

By Seth Faison New York Times Service

long ago, Tsingtao Brewery Co. looked unbeatable.

booming beer market and ambitious plans to quadruple production in five years. Tsingtao seemed perfectly positioned to ride China's locomotive-

like economic growth.
In 1993, when the government allowed China's top companies to list shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, Tsingtao was chosen to go first, and its stock was one of the bottest issues of the year. But now, Tsingtao is going

nowhere. Its profits are sag-ging, its stock is near an alltime low, and its expansion plans have stalled. Tsingtao managers have been reluctant to explain wby the \$190 mil-lion they raised in 1993 has not been invested in expansion.

Tsingtao's story straddles a central paradox in China today. In this country's wrenching shift from a planned to a mar-

NEW DELHI - India, aiming to meet an

"In the short run, the focus must be on products

The strategy aims at increasing India's share

the decade, unveiled a short-term export strategy Wednesday focusing on 15 products and 15

and markets where we have competitive strength," the commerce minister, P. Chi-

of world trade to about 1 percent by 2000 from 0.6 percent, Mr. Chidambaram said.

The products are gems and jewelry; ready-made garments; cotton accessories; cotton yarn

and other fabrics; marine products; drugs and

pharmaceuticals; transport equipment; manufac-

tured metal goods; machinery and instruments; manufactured leather goods; leather foutwear,

man-made yarn and other fabrics; dyes and in-

efficient system run by the Communist Party. The entry of With a high-quality prod-uct, a well-established name, a markets in Hong Kong and Shanghai has been a dud.

Unforeseen difficulties are inevitable, of course, wheo capital markets are being built

Chinese brewer has failed to live up to its potential.

time fathoming: Companies that say they want to make money are still run by Communist Party bureaucrats who care more about meetings and government policy than revenues or profit margins.

Tsingtao's difficulties are especially striking because the opportunity is so great.

annual export target of \$75 billion by the end of leaders, referring to the 15 destinations identified

as target markets.

United States.

sharply, he said.

India in 14 of the 15 products.

**India Identifies Its Export Targets** 

growth has been accompanied about 118 million barrels anby bumbling financial opera- nually, roughly 15 times as TSINGTAO, China — Not tions mired in a hopelessly in- big as it was in 1980 and growing so fast it has overtaken Germany to become the world's second largest, after the United States.

But Tsingtao, which is not accustomed to entertaining questions from anyone but government officials, is almost completely indifferent to investors and analysts, offering them little information.
Of the 17 China-based com-

panies now listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, only one, Shanghai Petrochemical Co., trades at more than its from scratch. But in China, such problems are compounded by a situation that most Western investors have a hard Western investors have a hard Hong Kong dollars (23 cents), down 3 cents, well below the price of 2.80 at which it was offered.

Any analyst can list a oumber of reasons Chinese stocks are down this year: Many have suffered from Beijing's tight credit policy, others were

See BREW, Page 13

"Put your money where your market is," Mr.

Chidambaram said to exporters and business

ucts in these markets, exports would grow

Underlying the importance of the United States as a market for Iodian exporters, Mr.

Chidambaram said it was a significant market for

We cannot underplay the importance of the

# Rise in Output **Fuels Hope for** Japan Recovery

TOKYO — Japan said Wednesday that its industrial production rose by 1.3 percent in November over October, brightening the nation's eco-nomic outlook. Economists had

by 0.1 percent. It was the second consecuand Industry. Output was forecast to rise 0.5 percent in De-cember and another 0.5 percent in January, according to a sur-

predicted that output would fall

vey of manufacturers. The survey prompted the ministry to improve its assessment of manufacturers by saying that industrial production was starting to recover.

Analysts were optimistic about the data. "I think the economy is poised for a relatively strong recovery," said Akio Yoshino, an economist at

Crédit Suisse in Tokyo. Economists said growth was likely to be bolstered by capital investment and public-works money from the government's 14.2 trillion yen (\$138 billion) stimulus package announced in September. Some added that electronics and machinery makers would benefit from healthy demand for computers, telecommunications equipment and construction machinery,

They are Bangladesh, Belgium, Britain, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Iraly, Japan, the Netherlands, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates and the fueling economic expansion. Those forces were partially responsible for the production growth posted in November, the ministry said. Those 15 markets oow take nearly \$20 billioo of India's \$26.2 billion of annual exports, the minister said. "Out of that, \$17.1 billioo came from these 15 products alone," he said.

If India could increase its share of these prod-

Signs of Japanese economic recovery were likely to support the stock market, brokers said. Although the output statistics were released after financial markets had finished trading for the day, investors appeared to be optimistic about the economy. The Nikkei stock average closed above 20,000 for the first time in more than 14 months,

and many brokers said prices had room to grow.

"The rise through 20,000 is a significant achievement in the recent bull run, but we do oot need to be too cautious yet, said Harushige Kobayashi, deputy general manager at Ya-maichi Securities.

The Nikkei average finished tive monthly rise, said Japan's 107.04 points higher, or 0.54 Ministry of International Trade percent, at 20,011.76—its highest close since Oct. 13, 1994.

Many brokers said foreign investors would propel the rally further. "Most foreign investors were on the sidelines today, but

buy orders from investment trusts underpinned overall prices." said Tadayasu Hasegawa, general manager at Kokusai Securities.

"Their buy orders convinced other investors that the downside is solid, and bargain-bunting in volatile, low-priced is-sues continued," be added. "When foreigners resume buying, trade will be revitalized and we can expect further gains from the 20,000 level.' The auto industry was a drag

on production in November. That was reflected in the 21 perceot drop in vehicle exports announced Wednesday by the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, the 11th consecutive monthly decline.

Japanese carmakers are exporting fewer vehicles because of the strong yen, a slowdown in the U.S. auto market and the shift of production by carmakers offshore.

Ministry officials warned that the government had not declared the economy to be in a state of recovery.

Moreover, some economists cautioned that inventories remained at high levels, having fallen for only the third time in the past 12 months. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

## INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

For more information about the Index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gautie, \$2521 Naully Cadex, France.

Consumer Goods

# Enron Treads Warily in Africa

Wed, Prov. %, close close change

133.37 133.40 -0.02

148.06 143.13 -0.05

137,74 137,70 +0.03

135.91 135.84 +0.06

By James C. McKinley Jr. New York Times Service.

Industrial Sectors

Unities 127.11 128.43 -1.03

136,90 135,82 +0.80

129.12 129.13 -0.01

Services 120.44 120.08 +0.30 Miscellaneous

S. A. Lord - She dies

1:00

eneath the rolling grasslands of cians charged that the company had padded southern Mozambique lies a huge costs and bribed officials to get the contract reserve of natural gas that if piped to ... In the end, the Mozambique accord came neighboring South Africa could only after Euron agreed to give the state energy bring \$100 million a year in hard currency to what may be the poorest country in the world.

what may be the poorest country in the world.

Last month, an aggressive American company, Enron Corp. of Houston, trainipled over several competitors and signed an aggreement with Mozambique to develop the field.

Enron plans to construct an 800-mile pipeline (1,300-kilometer) into South African provided it can find a customer. The only problem is that during the bidding, Enron may have alienated many of the South African energy companies that were the most promising customers. Some of those companies had wanted a stake in the pipeline themselves.

"If they don't have a buyer for the gas, then Buron loses its rights," said Eric Daffern, a World Bank official. "They can't sit on it forever." Enron must find a customer by June or seek an extension from the Mozambican government.

Mozambican officials said. Along the way, U.S. diplomats and several senators mounted a lobbying campaign to persuade Maputo to sign with Enron.

"Elements of the cmbassy did a bit of lobying campaign to persuade Maputo to sign with Enron.

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"Elements of the cmbassy did a bit of lobying campaign to persuad

The joint venture between Enron and the state-owned energy company took diplomacy to put together, company executives and U.S.

It nearly fell apart several times in the last three months as Mozambican energy officials complained that they were under political pressure from the United States to accept what they saw as a bad deal.

Othe

problems in India, where its project to build a \$3 billion power plant in Maharashstra state was derailed last summer after nationalist politi-

company a bigger share of the venture, Mozambican officials said. Along the way,

"It was a little more nuanced than that," one official said: Mozambican officials were told that the U.S. Congress would be less likely to approve the same level of aid for the country

if it rejected a major capital project.

"It is difficult to say we should give Mozambique \$40 million a year if it's going to take an opportunity for a \$700 million project and not do it," the official said. But Enron is hardly bome free in Mozam-

# Cordis Stock Plunges on J&J Doubts

ucts, and synthetic fibers.

destinations.

dambaram, said.

NEW YORK — Stock in Cordis Corp. stock plunged Wednesday on fears that Johnsoo & Johnson may terminate

its \$1.8 billion agreement to buy the maker of medical devices. Cordis shares fell \$10.50 to \$96.00 in late trading after Johnson & Johnson, which agreed last month to buy Cordis for \$109 a share in stock, said it was extending a study of the company's operations.

Some of Cordis's most successful devices are used in conjunction with Johnson & Johnson products for treating

clogged arteries.

Johnson & Johnson is extending the period for it to review Cordis's finances until Jan. 22. The period had been set to end Wednesday.

Johnson & Johnson declined to say why it had extended the review or whether it was still committed to the deal. But analysts said the transaction was now in doubt.
"It is a little troubling in that

maybe J&J has found something out." said Kurt Kruger at Hambrecht & Quist.

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southern Africa against the background of its	See ENRON, Page 13	rose 12.5 cents in late trading, to \$86.625.		Please send me1996 IHT Pocket Diaries.  Price includes initials, packing and postage in Europe:  1-4 diaries UK £22 (U.S.\$34) each INTIALS
Cross Rates  2	Dec. 27 Essrocurrency Deposits  CS Peak- 1,177 1,225" Deltar D-Mark Franc 1,178 1,215" Deltar D-Mark Franc 1,178 1,215" 1 menth 57% 57% 37% 4.4 % 2% 2.2 1,25% 100.0 3 menths 5% 57% 37% 2.3 % 2% 2.2 1,167.0 10.07 1 menth 57% 57% 37% 37% 2.7 % 21% 2.2 1,167.0 10.07 1 menth 57% 57% 37% 37% 2.7 % 21% 2.2 1,167.0 10.07 1 menth 57% 57% 37% 37% 37% 2.7 % 2.7	Dec. 27  French Sterling Franc Yen ECU  61/2-65/4 474-514 74-74 514-514 676-67/6 474-514 11-54 65/4-67/6 474-514 11-54 65/4-67/6 474-514 11-54 65/4-67/6 474-51/6 11-54 65/4-67/6 474-51/6 11-54 65/4-67/6 474-51/6 11-54	Measures 13 x 8 cm (5 1/4 x 3 in.).     Black leather cover	1-4 diaries UK £22 (U.S.\$34) each 5-9 diaries UK £20.50 (U.S.\$32) each 10-19 diaries UK £18 (U.S.\$28) each  Additional postage outside Europe £4.50 (U.S.\$7)  Check here for delivery outside Europe by registered of certified mail: £5.75 (U.S.\$8.90) per package plus postage  Payment is by credit card only. All major cards accept  Please charge to my credit card:  Access Amex Diners Eurocard MasterCard V.  Card No
Zerich 1356 1795 4800 4047 18016 2196 2176 1518 1318 1816 18CV 1317 8482 1801 4447 18016 2196 2176 1518 1318 1801 4801 1801 1801 1801 1801 1801 18	Black   19504   Unified Status   Close   Pres	Britain  Brank base rate Coll money 61% 64% 1-month interbenk 64% 64% 2-month interbenk 64% 64% 64% 65% 10-year Git 7.40 7.52  France Intervention rate 4.45 4.45 Coll money 434 45% 2-month interbenk 5.00 54% 3-month interbenk 5.00 54% 3-month interbenk 5.00 54% 6-month interbenk 6-	with gilt metal corners.  Personalized with gilt initials.  Week-at-a-glance format, printed on Prench blue paper with gilded page edges.  1996 notable dates and national bolidays in over 90 countries; world timezone table; international telephone dialing codes and country prefixes; conversion tables of weights, measures and distances.  Blue ribbon page marker.  Includes removable address book that fits snugly into its own silk pocket. No need to re-write your most important phone numbers — the address book will fit right into next year's diary.	ExpSignature  Name  Address  City/Code/Country  Tel/Fax  Company EU VAT ID N° (FOR CORPORATE PURCHASES)  28-12-
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Daiwa's N.Y. Branch Chief Indicted

NEW YORK (Bloomberg) — The former general manager of

the New York branch of Daiwa Bank Ltd. was indicted Wednes-

day on charges that he had helped a former Daiwa trader conceal a \$1.1 billion trading loss from U.S. bank regulators.

The former official, Masahiro Tsuda, was charged with de-

frauding the U.S. Federal Reserve Board between July and

September 1995 and concealing a felony. The losses were in-

curred by Toshihide Iguchi, a former government-bond trader who previously pleaded guilty to hiding the \$1.1 billion loss from Daiwa executives and from U.S. bank regulators for 12 years. U.S. prosecutors said. If convicted, Mr. Tsuda would face a maximum

The Federal National Mortgage Association said it would sell \$1 billion of preferred stock to buy back its common shares; The company, known as Fannie Mae, also plans a 4-for-1 stock split to

•Spiegel Inc. is eliminating its quarterly dividend of 5 cents a

·Carlyle Group Inc. raised its stake in GTS Duratek Inc. by

buying 500,000 shares from National Patent Development

Corp. Carlyle now holds 2.2 million shares in GTS, an eo-

•Peru raised \$1.15 billion in 1995 by privatizing 47 companies.

• Venezuela's gross domestic product rose 2.2 percent this year as

an expanding oil industry helped the economy grow for the first

(Reuters, Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg)

sentence of eight years in prison and a \$500,000 fine.

share to dedicate the funds to strategic growth programs.

take effect Jan. 12 for shares of record on Jan. 8.

vironmental services company.

# 'Strange Bed Partners' Plague RJR

#### By Glenn Collins New York Times Service

NEW YORK - Each year, groups with a strong social conscience or a pressing policy agenda may ask stockholders of giant corporations to vote on resolutions co and have filed for a consent solicitation calling for anything from equal-employ-ment opportunities in Northern Ireland to

the preservation of endangered species. And each year, dozens of such resolutions are treated with perfunctory courtesy and then soundly defeated: The average entry gathers only 8 percent of shareholder votes.

But this holiday season, the concerns of one group of shareholders identified with religion have inadvertently meshed with the profit-seeking interests of powerful dis-sident shareholders to put RIR Nabisco Holdings Corp., an \$8.6 billioo consumer-

products company, on the defensive. The company has firmly opposed investor calls for an immediate spin-off of its the alliance between God and the Mighty

LOS ANGELES - A record box-office

take. Nearly 1.3 billion North American

admissions. Blockbusters such as "Batman Forever" and "Apollo 13." That doesn't

sound like a bad year in Hollywood - but it

Despite a projected \$5.2 billion gate, the 1995 film season was very disappointing, studio executives say. Time Warner Inc.'s

Warner Bros. and Walt Disney Co. enjoyed

good returns, but profits were scarce and

margins slim elsewhere. This year's

movies cost much more to make and dis-

tribute than in 1994, and higher ticket

saying that would lead to dire legal li-abilities and lower credit ratings.

RJR Nabisco's legal might had been directed against the investors Carl Icahn and Bennett LeBow. They own 13 million shares, or a 4.8 percent stake, in RJR Nabisthat would permit RJR Nabisco's 450,000 shareholders to vote on a spin-off.

Now, the legal thrust has been redirected to oppose oew and unlikely barbarians at the gate: two small groups of Roman Catholic priests pushing RJR Nabisco for the same spin-off - who together own 980 shares and belong to a large ecumenical confederation, the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility in New York.

survive RJR Nabisco's legal challenges, the priests' resolution could provide a clear-cut choice oo a spin-off for shareholders at the company's annual meeting in April.

Happy Ending for Hollywood? Not in '95

and it's getting worse," said Tom Sherak, senior vice president of News Corp.'s 20th

Century-Fox. After the Christmas week-

end, domestic theaters had sold about \$5.15

billion in tickers. Daily Variety reported. At

that point in 1994 sales were \$5.11 billion.

The weekend's top-grossing film was "Wairing to Exhale," which earned \$14.1 million. Following it were: "Toy Story," \$12.1 million; "Jumanji," \$10.6 million; "Grumpier Old Men," \$7.8 million; and "Heat" \$7.8 million;

Even though 1995 will probably be Hol-

'We're sort of in a tailspin right now,

prices did not offset flat admissions.

None are more struck by the oddness of food business from its tobacco operations, Dollar than the allies themselves.

If the LeBow-Icahn proposals do oot

times you end up with strange bed partners," said the Rev. Michael Crosby of the Interfaith Center, a brother in the Capuchin Franciscan order in Milwaukee who wrote the priests' resolution.

Mr. LeBow, who had not known about the priests' proposal, said with a laugh: Interest in an immediate spin-off is clearly nondenominational." He added: "We are, however, disturbed that RJR Nabisco keeps going to extraordinary lengths to prevent its shareholders from having a voice.

Last month, the priests asked RJR Nabisco to put their resolution, calling for an immediate spin-off of the food business, on the ballot for the April meeting. RJR Nabisco's lawyers asked the priests to withdraw the measure, then tried to bargain with

them. The priests have refused. Now the company's lawyers are urging the Securities and Exchange Commission to block the priests' resolution, contending that, among other things, it duplicates Mr. LeBow's consent solicitation.

lywood's biggest ever, topping the 1994 mark of \$5.2 billion as calculated by Va-

riety, it did not come cheaply. The 1995

increase of 0.8 percent hardly covered

higher production costs. Hollywood spent

an estimated 15 percent more this year

bringing movies to the screen. Just to break

even, films now have to make \$100 mil-

lion. Ten 1994 releases reached that mark.

This year's top two movies were "Bat-man Forever" (\$184 million) and "Apollo 13" (\$172 million). The top two of 1994— "Forrest Gump" and "The Lion King"—

compared with seven in 1995.

each made more than \$300 million.

# **Budget and Bonds** "If a celibate can use the phrase, somemes you end up with strange bed part-

NEW YORK -Stocks were mixed Wednesday amid expectations for a decline in U.S. interest rates and a Treasury bond rally sparked by optimism that the White House and Congress were making progress on

budget deal. Bank and financial shares gained, but slumping metals stocks tempered the advance.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 4.34 points lower,

#### U.S. STOCKS

at 5,105.92. But advancing issues outpaced decliners by a narrow 13-to-12 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The 30-year Treasury bond a little buoyant feel to it." rose 14/32 point, so 111 29/32; Aluminum and copper stocks for a yield of 6.01 percent, down fell on concern that demand from 6.04 percent Tuesday. Republican leaders and Pres

ident Bill Clinton are scheduled to meet again Friday to discuss proposals to balance the budget

in seven years.

Even amid the budget debate, Treasury bond yields have fallen on expectations that economic growth and inflation will he moderate in 1996.

PNC Bank gained 11/4, to 31/2, Bankers Trust New York rose 114, to 671/2, and First Chicago NBD added 11/1, to 39%, as investors bet that falling interest rates would lift profits of companies that lend

Federal National Mortgage

Association railied 51/a, to a record 124%, after the company said it would buy back as much as 9 percent of its common

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stock. "As we go into 1996, investors are looking to the financial sector for more mergers and acquisitions," said Jeffrey Roberts, managing director at Trendline Research & Manage ment. In addition, he said, "the interest-rate environment is

clearly very friendly. Peter DaPuzzo, senior managing director at Cantor, Fitzgerald & Co., said, "If the Fed was willing to ease during the budget crisis, there's a feeling that the Fed will continue to lower rates. The market still has

may fall as 1996 begins; hurting prices and profits along the way. On Tuesday, Smith Barney lowered earnings estimates for several metals companies, mostly ecause of weaker shipments in the fourth quarter.

Alcoa dropped 1¾, to 49¾, Phelps Dodge slid ¾, to 60½, Reynolds Metals dropped 1, to 53, and Cyprus Amax Minerals

weakened 34, to 25%. Microsoft fell 134, to 88% Intel slid 1/2, to 58%, Oracle dropped 1/2, to 431/2, and Bay Networks fell 19t, to 41%.

Auto shares fell on reports that earnings could be weakers than expected in 1996. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

# French Franc Gets Lift From Data, but Labor Concern Looms

rose Wednesday after a batch of fa-furniture vorable economic news, but the threat of further labor unrest kept gains in check. The statistics office INSEE said household consumption of manufactured goods in France rose 4.4 percent in November from October, Consumption was up 1,4 percent from a year

French durable-goods orders rose

NEW YORK — The French franc chases of household electronics and late November, and analysts expect

'Heat." \$7.3 million.

The dollar closed in New York at 4.8975 French francs, down from 4.9092 francs Tuesday. But optimism about the data was tempered by a warning from the leader

of the Force Ouvriere union that France could face a new wave of strikes early next year.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

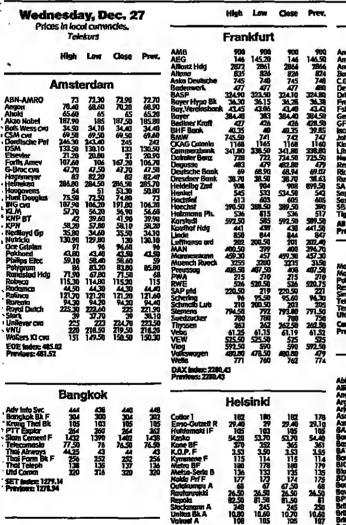
#### economic data for December to reflect slowing growth because of the labor unrest and related disruptions.

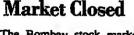
Meanwhile, the dollar edged up as investors hoped President Bill Clinton and Congress would soon end their

into the new year they may have some-thing accomplished," said. Steven Saslow at HSBC Securities in New

102.33 yea. The pound was steady at \$1.5600.

## French unions staged more than three budget standoff.





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But oot everyone was optimistic that a budget accord could be reached. by year-end.
"The longer it takes, the more we'll

worry about it," a dealer said. The U.S. currency rose to 1:4335 Deutsche marks from 1.4305 DM on

"The mood is that when you walk. Tuesday, to 1.1570 Swiss francs from 1.1540 francs and to 102.83 yen from

by signs of strength in Japan's economy, which could translate into inreased imports, heavier capital outflows and a lower trade surplus with the United States. It also could drive investors from Japanese bonds. (Knight-Ridder, AFX, Bloomberg)

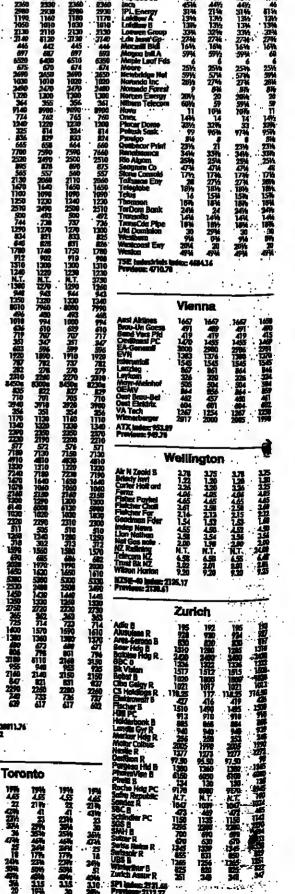
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The dollar was lifted against the yen



# Collapse of a Privatization Russia Insists STET Talks Are 'Closed'

and to be a state of

MOSCOW — The deal by which STET SpA of Italy was to acquire a 25 percent stake in the Russian telecommunications company Svyazinvest is definitely off, a Russian privatization official said Wednesday.

'As far as STET is concerned, it's their problem," a spokesman for the Russian Privatization Center said. "We consider this matter closed. In January, it seems a new tender will be announced, and as far as I know, STET is unlikely

in Rome, however, a spokesman for Italy's state-controlled telecommunications bolding company argued that the deal was not dead.

This month, STET won a tender for 25 percent plus one share in Svyazinvest. STET had bid \$640 million for the stake, and terms called for it invest a further \$760 million over the next two years. But STET said Friday that it was putting the \$640 million into an escrow account antil Russia

invest. It said it was concerned about the ability of the telecommunications company to control its subsidiaries and to impose price increases. Russian officials then said they regarded the

deal as void because they had not received the payment that was due Friday. The Russian government owns 51 percent of Svyazinvest, a holding company set up last sum-

mer that owns a majority stake in 85 of Russia's 87 regional telephone companies. 'We don't think the negotiations are closed."

a STET spokesman said Wednesday. "There are further studies needed, and we are absolutely willing to carry them out." But the Russian privatization official said the government was not conducting any negotiations with STET.

STET won the initial tender over a consortium of France Telecom, Deutsche Telekom AG and a Russian unit of US West Inc. The company denied seports suggesting it had been scared away by the success of the Communist Party in could provide it with assurances about Svyaz- Russia's recent general election.

# Russia Plans Jewel Exchange

MOSCOW — Russian auHorities will launch an exdiscussions will resume in early

among moustly authout agreement. The
son said the extension was postive, demonstrating that neither change in January for uncut and polished diamonds, the head of the Russian association of diamond producers was quoted had agreed to extend the five the contract to be extended Wednesday as telling the Interfax news agency.

Mines Ltd. is under consideration as a possible co-founder, Ararat Evoyan said, with other likely co-founders being the Finance Ministry and the state committee on precious metals. De Beers and the Russian di-

Mercedes Sees Sales

Revving Up 1995 Profit

STUTTGART - Mercedes Benz AG

said Wednesday that sales this year would be up, and the vehicle-manufacturing unit of

Daimler-Benz AG forecast further gains in

Helmut Werner, chief executive; said

sales this year should rise 2 percent, to 72

billion Deutsche marks (\$50 billion). Pas-

senger-car sales slipped to 580,000 from

592,000 in 1994, while commercial vehicle

Mr. Werner said the strong Deutsche

mark had cost the company more than 1-

billion DM, but he said cost-cutting had

offset that drag on earnings. The company expects a higher profit for 1995 despite the

currency difficulties. Profit in 1994 was

sales rose to 320,000 from 290,400.

amond industry adjourned talks kerage concern Anderson Wil-January, De Beers said in a statement released in London.

The company said the parties year sales agreement between again before they rea Russia and De Beers until Feb. 1. agreement," he said. De Beers Consolidated Buoyed by the comments from both sides, analysts expressed optimism that De Beers and Russia would reach a marketing agreement, but many said negotiations would probably drag

on past Feb. 1. lames Allen of the stock-bro-

side wanted to walk away from a

"I would personally expect again before they reach a final Under the current deal, Russia sells 95 percent of its rough

gems through De Beers's Central Selling Organization. Russia has argued that it should be allowed to sell more stones independently.

(AFX, Reuters)

### Bank of Israel Investigates Sale Involving Safra Family

TEL AVIV - The Bank of Israel said Wednesday that it was investigating the 1986 sale of First International Bank of Israel after a suit was filed against the bank's owners, the Safra family.

Jack Nasser, who bought First International in 1986 and transferred control of the bank to the Safras in late 1990.

Republic Bank of New York. What we are talking about began many years ago, even before 1986," a central bank spokesman said, noting that the officials who had approved

the sale no longer worked at the central bank.

The suit was filed by an Israeli businessman,

Mr. Nasser has said that in buying the bank he was acting as a front man for Edmond Safra of

First International, Israel's fourth-largest (Bloomberg, Reuters) bank, is controlled by Mr. Safra's two brothers, who live in Brazil. The suit names all three.

# European Liftoff in 1996

aerospace

Deutsche Aerospace AG.

Neither of them can match

BAe's 22 percent reduction in

expecting a profit this year.

by the effects of the weak dol-

Consolidation will

help cut costs, but

companies need to

keep economizing.

Deutsche marks (\$1.1 billioo)

in the first half of 1995. Daim-

ler-Benz took a 1.2 billion

DM charge to cover the cost of

erische Motoren Werke AG.

expected to post a full-year

loss of around 2 billion DM,

and Manfred Bischoff, chief

executive of the aerospace

unit, has said he does not ex-

pect the unit to post a net profit

before 1997.

most European

aerospace

Deutsche Aerospace, stung

AG's

PARIS aerospace industry is expected to see the beginning of bet-ter times in 1996, as reorganizations dictated by a prolonged slump in civilian et sales and cuts in defense budgets begin to pay off.
Aerospace and defense

companies in Europe should also see further consolidation. as cost-cutting mergers by U.S. competitors and constraints on research and development budgets compel individual European companies to join forces.

In contrast, Europe's airline industry, which has returned to a profit this year, is girding for a downturn in 1997 as it prepares for deregulation.

The aerospace industry 
"has to consolidate in order to gain the economies of scale to compete and collaborate oo more equal terms with the Americans," Dick Evans, British Aerospace PLC's chief executive, said recently.

Consolidation will help cut costs, but industry executives and analysts say most European companies need to keep slashing costs so they can compete more effectively with their American counterparts — par-ticularly because a weak dollar, the currency used in aerospace transactions, gives U.S. com-

panies an advantage. At present, British Aerospace is way ahead. After four years of operating losses, Europe's largest defense contractor more than doubled its pretax profit in the first half of 1995, to £160 million (\$248 million).

Nick Cunningham, an analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said the company should have a full-year pretax profit of £279 million, exclud-

ing special items. That puts workers by 1998, should nar-Europe's BAe in sharp contrast with the row its losses as early as 1996. Continent's chief aerospace however,

companies, Aerospatiale of Aside from Daimler's own France and Daimler-Benz problems, the German company will have to sort out another critical issue in early 1996 — the fate of Fokker NV. The aircraft maker con-

operating costs, and neither is trolled since 1993 by Daimler-Benz and partly owned by the Dutch government, risks bankruptcy unless it can win lar and high labor costs, had an cash infusions from its main operating loss of 1.6 billion shareholders.

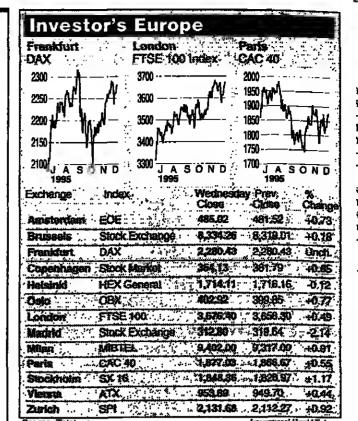
Battered by industry price wars, a weak dollar and high production costs, Fokker reported the biggest loss of its 75-year history for the first half of 1995, a deficit of 651 million guilders (\$406 million), and has since asked Daimler and the Netherlands for a bailout package of around 2.3 billion guilders. Daimler in mid-December

agreed to extend beyond the first of the year a line of credit that has been keeping Fokker afloat for several months. The company's fate could be de-cided early in 1996 in The Hague in negotiations between

reorganizing the unit.
"Daimler are essentially where we were three or four years ago," says John We-ston, chief of British Aerospace's defense unit. the government and Daimler. Aerospatiale also is oot expected to make a profit in 1995. Although its chief cx-ecutive, Louis Gallois, began BAe cut its work force to 45,000 this year from 133,000 the year by forecasting at least in 1988, largely by selling its a break-even result, analysts Rover automobile unit to Bayexpect the weak dollar to push the French government-After further reorganization owned company to its fourth charges, Daimler-Benz now is

consecutive annual loss. Airbus Industrie, a collaboration among Aerospatiale, Deutsche Aerospace, BAe and Construcciones Aeronáuticas SA of Spain, expects to sell more aircraft in 1996.

But Airbus, which last year Deutsche Aerospace's efnarrowly edged out Boeing forts to cope with a weak dol-Co. in new orders, is unlikely lar, including firing \$,000 to do that again this year.



#### Very briefly:

 Heineken NV acquired a 6.9 percent stake in Zywiec Breweries PLC of Poland from Bank Handlowo-Kredytowy SA, raising its holding to 31.8 percent.

 Chelyahinsk Regional Property Fund of Russia sold a 15 percent government stake in South Ural Bauxite Mines at a special auction Dec. 15, the Interfax news agency said. The 7,715 shares were started at 20,000 rubles (\$4.31) and sold for 39,400

 Rostelekom, Russia's biggest telecommunications company, will split its shares 5 for 1 on Monday.

•Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale plans to move its investment research into a separate unit as part of the expansion of its investment-banking activities.

 Bayer AG plans to cut about 1,000 jobs in Germany in 1996 to try to remain competitive internationally, its management board chairman, Manfred Schneider, said.

 Colonía Konzern AG's oet profit for 1995 is expected to again rise about 18 percent, lifted by growth in premium income. The insurer had a profit of 161.8 million DM in 1994.

(AFX, AP, Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg, Reuters)

# Huarte Shares Surge on Pact With Creditors

MADRID — Huarte SA's stock jumped cent stake in the company.

12 percent Wednesday as investors Under terms of the accordance. cheered the construction company's agreement with its creditors that would allow the creditors to buy out the majority stake held by Huarte's parent company.

Huarte finished at 620 pesetas (\$5.10), up

65, lifted by news that Huarte's bank cred-

Under terms of the accord reached with Banco Central Hispanoamericano and Banco Exterior de España, the banks have three months to take up the purchase option.

Huarte said the accord would permit the reopening of credit lines to the company.

Huarte's debt currently stands at 50.4

an option to buy Grupo Hasa's 50.03 per- billion pesetas, including 7 hillion pesetas of corporate bonds, Analysts said Hasa still owed Huarte about 12 billion pesetas for five of its main bank creditors, including construction work carried out for Hasa's real-estate development unit.

The brokerage concern Benito & Monjardin said the agreement was "positive" but said uncertainty would remain until problems such as debt owed by Hasa and the valuation of real-estate assets were solved.

**G-7 Ministers to Convene** 

Knight-Ridder PARIS — Finance ministers

of the Group of Seven leading industrialized countries will meet Jan. 20 in Paris, the Finance Ministry said Wednesday.

A spokeswoman for Finance Minister Jean Arthuis confirmed the place and date but gave no details about the agenda. Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura of Japan had said the ministers would probably meet.

#### 1.85 billion DML itors had signed an agreement giving them U.S. STOCK MARKET DIARY INTERNATIONAL FUTURES KVPN A ACCOUNT OF THE PROPERTY Inches Oreas Inches 5114.99 51. Trans 1954.45 790. 1081 223.31 2223. Comp 1653.85 1686.75 Standard & Poor's 1938 Low 10311618 721.11 718.44 10311618 73116 Val. High \$5585 33% 39%0 6% 25452 45% 25452 45% 25452 45% 26363 33% 18452 75% 17942 55% 17942 55% 17963 55% 17963 55% 16877 66% 15691 92 15554 126 1344 4175 1234 1234 1234 1244 1244 1244 1244 PacTel K mort Micrott Micrott Malace Cococi Malace Cococi Malace EMC SilenGol Marck IBM Fedinm Grains CORN (CBOT) 5.000 by minimum—dollors per busine Mort 96 3.621% 3.691% 3.691% 3.691% Mort 96 3.621% 3.691% 2.691% 2.691% Sep 96 3.111% 3.087% 1.091% Sep 96 3.115% 3.097% 1.09 5.511 SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT) 100 forst-dollors per busine Mort 96 225.50 231.90 232.00 Jul 96 235.50 231.90 232.00 Jul 96 235.50 231.90 232.00 Sep 96 225.50 231.90 232.00 Sep 96 225.50 231.90 232.00 Sep 96 255.50 251.00 Mort 96 25.50 NA. 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ASIA/PACIFIC

# Philippine Airlines Goes Jet Shopping Taiwan Beams Optimism Reusers Airbus and Boeing Picked TalPEI — Two years ago, law-abiding television viewers in Taiwan had a choice of three channels — state television, state television, state television, state television and state television.

# For \$2.7 Billion Outlay

Bloomberg Business News lines Inc. will spend \$2.7 billion to buy aircraft from Boeing Co. and Airbus Industrie over the ficial said Wednesday.

to buy eight 747-400s, Bocing's biggest long-distance jet, its chief financial officer, Jaime

plan to expand and return the airline to profitability after Chairman Lucio Tan hammered out an agreement with the gov- pay for the new jets. ernment last week to gain majority ownership of the airline.
"The chairman believes this

is the only way for PAL to compete with the megacarriers and to be able to cope with the demanding market," Mr. Bautista said.

With repairs and service, he said, the cost of the fleet renewal will rise to \$3 billion. While Mr. Bautista refused

to say how much Boeing and Airbus each would receive, \$150 million each.

The order strengthens Airbus's backlog at the end of a year in which the European consortium sold few of its A340 and has postponed until March the A330 jets in competition with maning of a Western partner in Boeing's new 777 jetliner. The the Chinese South Korean ven-big loser in the order was Mc-time to build a 100-seat pas-Donnell Douglas Corp.

"Every order is becoming ed from Beijing. very important," said Nick Cunningham, an analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Mr. Bantista said the pur-MANILA - Philippine Air- chases hinged on completion of the agreement with government institutions that own a combined 48 percent of the airline next three years, a company of to reduce their stakes. "I don't even want to think of this agree-With its boardroom wrangle ment not pushing through." he almost settled, the airline plans said. "We have already discussed with Airbus and Boeing

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the delivery schedule." Under the ownership agree-Bautista, said.

The Philippine flag carrier also said it would buy four A340-proposed doubling of the air-line's capital to 10 billion pesos.

A 220s from Airbus Industrie.

(\$381 million). The government.

their rights to the new shares. Mr. Bautista said the capital increase would be used to help

During a three-year owner-ship battle, Mr. Tan frequently feuded with minority shareholders over his plans to update

and expand the fleet.

Mr. Tan has controlled PAL. through his 51 percent own-ership of PR Holdings Inc., the company that won the bidding for 67 percent of the formerly

ate-owned airline in 1991. PAL had a loss of 1.7 billion pesos in the year ended in March and has projected a loss Boeing 747-400s cost about of 1.5 billion pesos for the current financial year.

> ■ Delay in Partner Choice Aviation Industries of China senger aircraft, Reuters report-

The company had been due to announce its choice by the end-of the year. . .

vision and state television.

Now, some 200 private cable operators are bringing a visual comucopia to Taiwan's homes, attracted by a populace mad about television and the prospect of expanding from this

island into neighboring China's vast market.
Foreigners are barred from owning more than 20 percent of any local cable operator, but proposed legislation is expected to allow them into the island's satellite-TV market, officials

"This is a very, very big pie," said Ding Nai-chu, vice president of the private Super TV. "The market is huge and has a lot of potential."

In surveys, more than 70 percent of Taiwan residents list watching television as their fa-vorite pastime, and Ms. Ding said about 20 billion new Taiwan dollars (\$732.9 million) was spent on television advertising last year.

Ms. Ding's company, set up in October, symbolizes a move in the television industry away from the fly-by-night operators who used to illegally wire homes to receive a cable service of pirated videos.

Capitalized at 775 million dollars, Super TV is a giant in an infant industry and is considering a foreign partnership as a way to bolster its capital further.

"We are very ambitious," Ms. Ding said. We have invested a lot of money in equipment and personnel.' "But I am quite confident that the invest-

ment will eventually pay off," she added.

Super TV plans soon to about double its capitalization, she said, and negotiations are

under way with many foreign companies. She declined to identify any of the interested for-

'Many foreign funds see Asia's newly emerging electronic media as a new channel of investment," she said. "A lot of major foreign firms have showed a high interest in Super TV. Our eventual goal is to aim at the entire Chinese market. Just close your eyes and think of how vast the mainland market is. I am very

The common language and heritage of China and Taiwan allow popular culture to transcend political differences, and Taiwan soap operas are among the most popular imports in China's market of 1.2 billion people.

The melodramatic tale "Cousin Wan Jun,"

which traces the love of three brothers for their alluring but confused cousin, is just one hit to have straddled the Taiwan Strait.

Although Taiwan's television products can be sold on the mainland, its broadcasters are still barred. Political tensions will have to ease before Beijing opens up, analysts said.

Betting on long-term potential, though, several Taiwan conglomerates and the governing Nationalist Party have set up their own channels. But for foreigners interested in Taiwan's market of 4 million cable households or in finding a conduit to the mainland market, legislative barriers remain.

A draft law that would allow foreign satellite broadcast companies to set up in Taiwan has been passed by the cabinet but still needs parliamentary approval, and officials said they did not know when Parliament would act.

The law restricting foreigners to a 20 per-cent stake in local cable television operators, however, is not up for review.

# Taipei Bank Eases Rules on Funds

Bloomberg Business News TAIPEI - The central bank announced

steps Wednesday to liberalize Taiwan's fi-nancial system.

As of Monday, the bank will abolish a \$3 raised abroad that domestic companies can bring into the country and allow foreign stock

Slower growth in stock prices, the money

new Taiwan dollars that businesses can take out of the country freely.

The liberalizations came as Taiwan's index of leading economic indicators fell 0.5 percent in November from October, the seventh debillion ceiling on the total amount of funds cline in the past eight months, the government

investors to take money out of Taiwan without speking government consent.

supply and export shipments plus a decline in applications for building permits in Taipei The bank also said it would double, to the equivalent of \$20 million a year, the amount of Economic Planning and Development.

# **Debts Drive** China Firm To Merger

SHANGHAI - China's top securities house will merge with three other companies after incurring huge debts in bond futures trading, traders said Wednesday.

The move could herald a wave of similar mergers and acquisitions as a prolooged slump in China's two fledgling stock markets takes its toll on securities houses, industry analysts said. Shanghai International Secu-

rities is to be merged soon with Shanghai Finance Securities, Shanghai Pudoog Development Securities Co. and Shanghai International Trust & Investment Co., traders said.

The resulting entity will be called Shanghai New Securities Co., they said. Securities authorities have

agreed to the plan, the sources said, and a formal announcement is expected shortly. "This is a real hit but was to be expected," one trader with

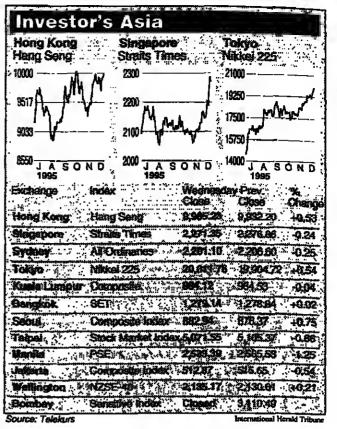
Shanghai-based Guotai Securities said. Analysts said many securities

houses had run into trouble after the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock markets plunged in mid-1994 and that mergers were being accepted as a solution to some of their problems.

Beijing has tightened control over new issues and listings, resulting in loss of business for many securities firms.

The hard-currency B share markets in Shanghai and Shenzhen have fallen to record lows in the past week, while domestic A shares have hovered near six-month lows.

But the B share index rose Wednesday on bargain-hunting after several days losses, brokers said. It gained 1.1 percent, to 47.769 points.



#### Very briefly:

· South Korea will allow foreign companies to list their shares in the form of depositary receipts on the Korean Stock Exchange starting in May, the Finance Ministry said.

 Samsung Electronics Co. forecast sales of \$27 billion for 1996. up 29 percent from an estimated \$21 billion for 1995.

• Tenaga Nasional Bhd. expects Kuala Lumpur to rule in the first quarter of 1996 on the power producer's application for a rate increase, its chairman said.

 Chinese work units and owners of private enterprises must report employees' total monthly income to tax authorities in the new year. the State General Administration of Taxation said.

• ITC Ltd.'s chairman, Yogesh Deveshwar, plans a "healing" dialogue with the company's British shareholder, BAT Industries PLC. Mr. Deveshwar was elected over BAT's opposition. Yamaha Motor Co. formed a joint venture to produce and

market motorcycles in Thailand with Siam Yamaha Co.

 Sharp Corp. established a fully owned subsidiary, Sharp Electronics Malaysia, in Selangor to supply parts for production and repair to Sharp manufacturing bases worldwide.

 NEC Corp. will increase production of mobile phones for overseas sale in the year to March 1997 at its plants in Britain, Mexico, Australia and China.

## ENRON: Customers Wanted for African Gas Deal

#### Continued from Page 9

bique, as it stepped on the toes of South African companies to ob-

Sasol Ltd., a coal-to-oil processing company, is still stinging from having lost its bid to build the pipeline before Enron arrived on the scene in late 1994.

Without sales contracts, Enron will not be able to attract the opment. That changed when a project there, the head of the \$600 million in financing to peace treaty was signed in 1992. build the pipeline, World Bank President Joaquim A. Chissano officials say.

Enron executives say they have high hopes of finding a buyer among South Africa's mining and steel companies. which could use the gas for mining operations.

Joseph W. Sutton, president of Enron Development, a subsidiary, said the talks were still

in a preliminary stage.
"We are hopeful," he said.
"This is very early in the development stages of this pro-

ject." The pipeline project is Enron's first foray into Africa. The company is the largest supplier of natural gas in the world, with 44,000 miles of pipelines in South America and the United

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The competition will be ruled by Law n. 8666, dated June 21, 1993, and by other conditions established in the instructions to Bidders and in the Contract Documents.

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new markets in the Third

ters). The Mozambican energy in the talks. company, Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos, has exclusive rights to develop it. .

officials with knowledge of the jority of the shares.

an expected \$140 million to \$200 million a year. But in August, a tentative deal between Enron and

diplomats in Maputo tried to salvage it, and several U.S. sen-States, and in recent years it has ators and W. Anthony Lake, the

COPEL

tried aggressively to break into 'president's national security

But 20 years of civil war in . Mozambique hindered develhas been seeking to increase exports, which total only about Bombay. \$300 million a year, mostly Chief Minister Manohar \$300 million a year, mostly shrippy and cashew nuts. The Enron deal is one such effort.

ioint venture are confidential. details say Enron controls a ma-After Euron pays taxes, how-

Mozambique began to unravel, a U.S. official said. American

advisor, wrote to Maputo. Then the World Bank stepped

Gulf Oil Co. discovered the in, concluding that Maputo was tain the right to build the Pande field in Mozambique in accepting too much risk. The priced badly. But the main pipeline.

1961 while drilling an ex- deal was renegousted and signed problem is that it has gradually 1961 while drilling an ex-deal was renegotiated and signed ploratory well in Inhambane in November. One potential buyer, Eskon ploratory well in mnamoauc Ltd., the South African electric Province. The field measures But Mozambican officials utility, has said the price being 12 miles by 15 miles and has then caused a minor political reserves of about 2 trillion cucontroversy by complaining about the U.S. diplomats' role

■ India Unsure on Deal

The cabinet of Maharashtra was continuing to discuss whether to revive Emon's power state government said Wednesday, according to a Bloomberg Business News report from

Joshi said a decision would be Although the terms of the ron has already agreed to new tenns for the project.

Bal Thackeray, the leader of ever, the government will end the Shiv Sena party that heads up with about half the revenue the government, earlier said the government had made a deciconcessions from the company.

Continued from Page 9

hit by unexpected tax increases, and still others were simply dawned on investors that they understand little about how Chinese companies are run. When they do get a peek inside,

Tsingtao is a prime example. It has been making beer since the Germans opened the brewery in 1903, when they colonized a section of the Shandong peninsula. As it earned a beer in China, Tsingtao gained a robust 70 percent of China's beer export market. When the company an-

oounced plans to list shares in Hong Koog, Tsingtao execumade by Jan. 15, the date tives boldly proclaimed plans to lawyers are set to resume dis-dominate China's fragmented cussions on compensation for beer market, in which more the project's cancellation. En- than 800 breweries compete. The response was over-

whelming, and the initial offering was so oversubscribed - more than 100 times - that few investors could get in. After Tsingtao was listed at sion. He is demanding further 36 cents a share, it climbed to mands for repayment. \$1.40, a towering 98 times earn-

ings, in 1994. Anheuser-Busch away questions about their un-Cos., the American beer giant, orthodox lending. ed, the financing of increased beer production had not even bought a 5 percent stake.

But bad news began emerging about Tsingtao in the middle of this year. Profit in the first half fell 49

company's vague annual report discovered that Tsingtao's managers had taken nearly half of the \$190 million from their was held in February 1995. share issue and, rather than investing it in plant expansion — informed company executives as had been promised in a about the need to shift China's prospectus — lent it to other alcohol consumption away reputation for making the best vesting it in plant expansion -Chinese companies that Tsing-

tao refuses to identify.
With its new capital thus mysteriously tied up. Tsingtao had to scale back expansioo plans and halve projected growth in beer production, which is now at about 3 million barrels a year. Worse, it remains unclear how much of Tsingtao's loans will be repaid: China's state-owned enterprises are famous for losing money and remaining immune to de-Tsingtao executives brush

Cos., the American beer giant, orthodox lending, bought a 5 percent stake. "I don't see what the fuss is

about," said Qiao Qijian, a se-nior executive at Tsingtao. "Many investors from Hong Kong are coocerned. But wheo

hling, analysts looking over the raised capital immediately because of shifting policy in Bei-ing and had to delay its planning throughout 1994 until a meeting

At that time, Beijing officials from the traditional favorite. grain alcohol, because of a growing shortage of grain.

That meant beer and wine

production was to be encouraged, which sounded good for Tsingtao. Yet the fact that a leading beer company's expansion was dictated by a government meeting, itself most concerned with the politics of grain production, was an indication of the way the emphasis remained on government planning rather than on market demand

Moreover, Mr. Qiao conced-

BREW: Tsingtao's Falling Profit and Derailed Expansion Plans Leave Investors Bitter

been discussed at the meeting. Some found that short-sighted, with China's beer market entering an intensely competitive stage and foreign breweries percent, as prices of raw materials surged hut competition that everything is going fine."

They come to visit, they can see that everything is going fine. If you have every every everything is going fine. If you have everything is going fine. If you have ever marching into China almost dai-Beck's of Germany and Pabst of the United States are already

making beer in China. January to expand its beer busipess in China, The Asian Wall Street Journal reported.]

Talks between Anheuser- overall sales.

France

Busch and Tsingtao about expanding the U.S. company's stake to 15 percent or more went sour. Anheuser-Busch executives have told colleagues at other beer companies that the deeper they looked into Tsing-

While Tsingtao is one of Chi-na's largest breweries and clearly its best-known, it has [Suntory Ltd. will launch a just 2.2 percent of the domestic joint venture in Shanghai in market. Although its 70 percent January to expand its beer busi-share of China's beer exports sounds good, that accounts for just 10 percent of Tsingtao's.

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	CO Brank of Bermunde (252-41444232)  Althonous U.S. Gr. Strylas A  Althonous U.S. Gr. Strylas A  Althonous U.S. Gr. Strylas A  S. 9.45  Althonous U.S. Gr. Strylas I  Althonous U.S. Gr. S	THE PARTY OF THE P	ORRIGH & COLONIAL EMERG MKTS LTD	V Chespestic Cor. 19523 \$ 377.08 If Fuel Let (Dec.15) \$ 179.08 V II Clobel Let (Dec.15) \$ 179.08 V Shalken Fe Let (Dec.15) \$ 177.08 JAROSEE FLEXING, GPO Sec. 11446 Hg Rg GP	d Close 8 14.24 d Close 8 15.61 MERRILL LYNCH BANK (SUISSE) S.A. SWISS PUNDS A HLES Belonced A USD 5 1994-67	d Regent Cital Am Grib Fol S 1,50% d Regent Gibl Form Grib Fol S 1,50% d Regent Gibl Form Grib Fol S 2,0000 d Regent Gibl Ford Grib Fol S 2,0000 d Regent Gibl Ford Boston S 1,2000 d Regent Gibl Ford Boston S 2,2000 d Regent Gibl Ford Boston S 2,2000 d Regent Gibl Regent S 2,2000 d Regent Gibl Regent S 2,2000 d Regent Gibl Regent S 2,2000 d Regent Regent Gibl Tiger S 3,2000 d Regent Regent Gibl Reg S 3,400 d Regent Regent Gibl Look p Fd S 4,000 d Regent South Also Fd S 4,000 d Regent South Also Fd S 4,000 d Regent South Also Fd S 5,661	d Global Utilities 5 10.94 Global Comerible 5 10.41 d Global Comerible 5 10.41 d Global Statescad 5 10.96 d Global Income Cl A 5 12.19 d Global Income Cl B 5 10.53	P First Trident Cap Corp S Aud FF I Tribut Avis S 16,202 FF I Tribut S voltage S 16,202 FF I Tribut S voltage S 17,202 FF I Tribut S 16,202 FF I Tribut S 10,202 F
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# Herald Eribune PORTS

# WORLD ROUNDUP Basketball's Biggest Kid Enjoys Life in a Candy Store



Buddy Ryan taking field Monday. for his last game as Arizona coach.

#### Cardinals Fire Ryan

FOOTBALL The Arizona Cardinals coach, Buddy Ryan, whose team wrapped up a miserable 4-12 season with a 37-13 loss Monday to Dallas, was fired by Bill Bidwill, the team's owner. Bidwill said he hadn't thought about dismissing Ryan until he watched the Cardinals against the Cowboys. Ryan, also the general manager, had two years left on his contract. He was 12-20 in two years with Arizona after going 43-35-1 in five years with Philadelphia.

 The current Eagles coach, Ray Rhodes, was voted coach of the year in his first season as an NFL head coach. Rhodes, formerly the defensive coordinator for San Francisco, took a team that lost its final seven games in 1994 and compiled a 10-6 record.

Rhodes received 24 votes in bal-loting by The Associated Press to edge Dom Capers of Carolina and Marty Schottenheimer of Kansas City, with

#### Sports' Most Powerful Man

Rupert Murdoch, owner of the Fox Television Network and newspapers and television stations around the world, heads The Sporting News' list of the 100 most powerful people in sports for the second straight year.

"Rupert Murdoch is transforming the way sports are seen around the globe. 'said John Rawlings, the editor of The Sporting News. "In just two years, Murdoch has built a Fox Sports programming arsenal that includes the NFL and major league baseball, the NHL, boxing and the perennially high-ratings sport of figure skating."

NBC television's president, Dick Ebersol, was second, with Nike's chairman, Phil Knight, third. (AP)

#### **Orioles Trade for Wells**

BASEBALL The Baltimore Orioles obtained David Wells, a left-handed pitcher, from the Cincinnati Reds for two outfielders, Curtis Goodwin and Trovin Valdez. Wells, 32, was 16-8

with Detroit and the Reds last season. The Chicago Cubs signed freeagent third baseman Dave Magadan to a one-year contract. Magadan, 33, hit .313 for Houston last season. (AP)

#### No Football for Snowballs

FOOTBALL The New York Giants said 75 season-ticket subscriptions will be canceled because of a snowball barrage during the Giants-San Diego game that left 15 injured and nearly resulted in the first forfeit in NFL history. Fifteeo people were arrested and 175 were ejected. (AP)

15 "My People

clerics?

autho 16 Dash

By William Gildea Washington Post Service

N AN unpromising hitter March morning in 1985, Maria Muresan and her 14-year-old son, Gheorghe, boarded a transit bus in the rural Romanian town of Tretenii. The diminutive woman and her tall son - he was 6 feet 8 - were bound for the university city of Cluj, some 25 miles distant. She was taking her youngest of six for a routine dental checkup.
"We need some X-rays," the dentist

said. "Your teeth have not grown as fast as the rest of you." When the boy walked into an adjoining room, a startled dental technical technical startled dental st nician looked up in amazement and could hardly get his questions out fast enough:
"Whew. You are a big guy. How old are
you? How tall are you? Do you play bas-

The man was shocked that Gheorghe was only 14. No, he had never played basketball. Only soccer. "I have very close friends. They teach baskethall. They have a team," the man mld Gheorghe. "I will call them." He called, and took Gheorghe to meet them. "Maybe I won't like this," Gheorghe told the coaches. But they per-

suaded him — and he stayed.
"I move to Cluj," he recalled recently, in his improving English. It took the coaches a month, but they found him a pair of basketball shoes large enough. "They help me a lot. They put me in school. They give me a place to live. They give me food. Every day, 7 to 8:30 P.M., I practice. I say, "O.K. O.K. I like."

Muresan kept growing, and his game kept improving, especially his shooting and passing. Eventually he moved from his high school and club teams to the Cluj University club team, then to Pau Orthez of the French league. In June 1993, the Washington Bullets selected him in the second round of the National Basketball Association draft, the 30th pick overall. Muresan wasn't remotely a conventional draft choice. Almost immediately, he underwent surgery in France for an overactive piunitary gland, which accounted for his Gheorghe opened a high height — 7 feet 7 (2.3 meters). That's taller kitchen cupboard that most peothan anyone who has ever played in the

A benign tumor oo his pituitary gland had grown so large that it intruded on his optic nerve and imperiled his sight; the surgery eliminated most of the tumor. He cupboard and pulled out a glass. then was put on daily injections, which he Then he sat down to eat some still takes. The Bullets expected him to stay in France, enjoy perhaps the pleasures of Provence as he recovered, touch up his game for one more season in the French league. But Gheorghe, who does most things at a leisurely pace, surprised them. He promptly landed in America and de-clared himself ready to play. That, the holding a chicken leg in his im-Bullets have learned, is how it is sometimes mense hand. "Some mornings I with Gheorghe. Ask for the salt, he passes

prove from raw project to potential stand-out in fewer than 2½ seasons. He surprised different. I play teacher. I look for truck pie," he said. "I feel very, very good in beds. He wanted to stop and see the beds in sess his ability, as he finished his chicken." them again, becoming at age 24 one of the most accurate field-goal shooters in the league. He collected 18 points and 17 rebounds in Portland during the team's justcoocluded West Coast trip.
Wheo Muresan first arrived he faced one

daunting problem after another. The death of his mother. A bout with chicken pox. Passing his driver's test while barely able to read English; then losing his way on the

roads.
"At first I say I cannot drive in the United States - everything is too big," he said. "There are so many streets, so many bridges. I can't remember. Now I know the

"He was in total darkness for so many mooths," said Sandra Calinescu, a friend who also was born in Romania. "But he's much more at ease now. Lili copes with reality here very well. She's really a big support for 'Ghita.' "

That's Gheorghe's nickname, prooounced "GEET-za." Lili is the former

Liliana Lazar, a Romanian whom Gheorphe met in Cluj and married at the courthouse in Arlington, Virginia.

One recent afternoon, Gheorghe hurried home to Liliana after a Bullets practice. He had on his usual garb: a Redskins leather jacket and gray sweat pants. He drove a creamy Cadillac sedan - his wife's car, his is a Chevy Blazer. His knees jut so high they almost cradle the steering wheel.

Gheorghe needs headroom as well as legroom; he's a well-proportioned 310 pounds (140 kilograms), and there's great distance from his waist to the top of his crewcut.

The previous day he had shaved off a scraggly growth of beard because he said, rubbing his smooth chin, flashing a smile, "I want to lonk

teammate Calbert Cheaney found that Muresan's freshly shaveo lonk accentuated Gheorghe's nose and kept laughing and trying to leap up and grab it during a lull in practice. Likewise laughing, Ghe-orghe swatted Cheaney's hand away like an opponent's shot. "Everybody loves Gheorghe," said another teammate, Jim McIlvaine, "The world is one hig candy store and Gheorghe is the biggest kid."

Liliana, who is 6-1, greeted him in a high-ceilinged hallway. Their living room is as yet unfurnished, totally empty except for one picture hung on a wall-the couple on their wed-ding day, Dec. 28, 1993. They spend much of their time in a large family room, with large leather chairs, large sofa, large

ple would have to stand on tiptoe or a chair to reach. Gheorghe, who can change most ceiling light bulbs at eye level, simply reached straight into the chicken. As he ate, he talked about how far basketball had taken him from his northern Romanian homeland of Transvl-

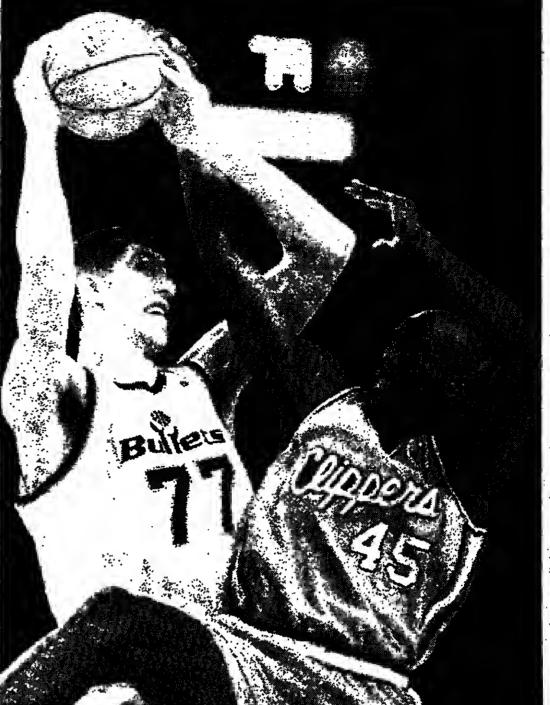
'Sometimes 1 miss my wake up, I remember some-

drivers. I want to be a truck driver." Life was a struggle in rural Romania. Gheorghe's father, Ispas, worked in a fac-

tory that produced wiring for electricity. The Muresans's stucco house had oo electricity, but it did have four bedrooms and Gheorghe was able to move from the smallbrother had moved out. Gheorghe did not

His fonder remembrances are of his years in Cluj. He is Cluj's boy, renowned for leading Romania in the 1991 Junior World Championships and playing for the national team in 1992, when he scored 42 points in a victory over Sweden. "I feel very very good in Cluj," he said. Where in the world would he like to

His face parted in a wide smile. "Monte Carlo," he said eyebrows raised. He had no trouble adjusting to life in France, beginning in the summer of 1992.
"The French people are very close to the



Gheorghe Muresan, the Washington Bullets' 7-foot-7-inch Romanian center, grabbing a thing. Going to school. I re-The Bullets didn't expect him to im-member the kids. Sometimes

France."

Pierre Seillani, the president of the Pau team, decided to sign Gheorghe m a pro contract after Pau and Clui had played. "The president" — as Gheorghe calls Seillant — "say, "We do everything we can to have him." We still are very good est room to a larger one after an older friends. The president is coming in February, for a long weekeod, to see me.'

Two agents for ProServ, Kenny Grant and Bill Sweck, pursued Muresan, "I saw him on French TV and I couldn't believe it - he was huge," said Sweek. "And the other thing I couldn't believe, he had this velvet touch. I just thought, if people could get beyond the way he looks, he had a

We didn't know Gheorghe and Gheorghe trusted Mihai. He was Gheorghe's confidant, his adviser. In France, Gheorghe averaged 18.7 points, 10.3 rebounds, 2.8 and providing him with an interpreter for blocks. 1 drove him around Paris and the

the stores.'

The Portland Trail Blazers was the NBA team most interested in him and bad him flown in from Europe for tests. The Chicago Bulls also were interested. 'I never heard from the Bullets until the

morning of the draft," Sweek said.
John Nash, the Bullets' general manager called. He had seen a tape of Muresan. He had seen photos of Muresan in such European publications as "Gigantes del Basket" and "Maxi Basket" - including an eye-catching picture of Gheorghe standing next to a life-size cutour of Michael Jordan.

totally overshadowing Jordan. "My immediate reaction was, 'Who is this?' Nash said. After the Bullets drafted "The key was a Romanian player on the him. Gheorghe peered into the TV cameras and said in English the words Sweek had

taught him: "I love this game."
The Bullets brought Gheorghe along

There's an unwritten rule among some Bullets: Don't split a dinner check with Ghe-

orghe.
"The guy can eat," Ghyka said. "If he's really hungry he might have two entrees. And the waiter might question who we're expecting if we're just two people cating at the

Playing against Muresan can be an ordeal. During a game against the Cleveland Cavaliers. Muresan (who wears number 77 because he's 7 feet 7) and John Amaechi pounded on one another repeatedly to gain position. At 6-10, Amaechi lonked short next to Muresan. After the game, he also looked

"If you don't hit him, he'll post up so low to the basket it'll be a joke," Amaechi said. "He can do some damage down low with his accuracy. If you don't hit this guy, it's all over. Luck-ily, I have 270 pounds on my

The Bullets coach, Jim Lynam, had his doubts about Muresan when he was a rookie and Lynam was still in Philadelphia as general manager of the 76ers. But Gheorghe has surprised the Bullets' coach the past two seasons. Lynam praised Muresan's improved stamina, lateral movement and ability to get up and down the court. Slow as he looks, Muresan is faster than he used to be. Lynam credits the Bullets strength and conditioning coach, Dennis Householder, who in turn praised Gheorghe's willingness to work.

In scoring and rebounding, Gheorghe is putting up numbers the way he did in the French league. Will Gheorghe ever

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jump higher?
"No." said Lynam. "Although he's no 7-footer. He's a
7-7-footer." So what does Big Gheorghe have to do to be a finished prod-

Stop his fouls that are careless," Lynam said. "He misses a rebound, then he reaches back and tries to strip (the ball from the opponent). The other thing is more mental, Barkley, Dr. J.

They all have their way of getting themselves ready to play, to do it again. To do it again. Lynam repeated, louder. He

wants Gheorghe fired up for every game. Gheorghe looked alternately

He looked happy because he loves to shoot and score: it's defense he must work on. "I play real hard defense," he stressed. "I do not like other team in my basket. Sometime

I do stupid foul." But his salary reflects his improvement. He received \$150,000 his rookie season. but now he's in the second year of a fouryear, \$5.4 million contract. Except for occasional sprees on clothing, he's very care-

ful with his money.
One day he visited the National Zoo. The moment Ghita showed up the bear retreated into his hole," said Calinescu. We tried it a few times. Every time Ghita showed up, the bear retreated."

Gheorghe shoots pool in his basement and reads Romanian novels, especially detective stories.

"I like to stay home with Liliana." he

She is happy in America. "People smile all the time," she said. "So I like this."
"It is O.K. for now," Gheorghe said.

#### **CROSSWORD**

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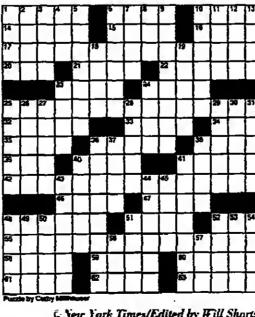
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S. New York Times/Edited by Will Shorts

Solution to Puzzle of Dec. 27

# Richardson Attacks and Puts England on Defensive

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

(Continued From Page 7)

England limped to 40 for one wicket in reply to South Africa's 428 all out on the second day of the fourth test in Port Elizabeth. South Africa. The paceman Shaun Pollock

made an early breakthrough when Alec Stewart wafted larnely at his second ball to give Dave Richardson a simple catch be-

**ESCORTS & GUIDES** 

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**ORCHIDS** 

Michael Atherton and Jason build up a large total. Gallian survived to the close despite seven overs of dangerous spin bowling from Paul Adams, an 18-year-old making his de-

aggressive 84 after South Africa resumed in the morning on 230 for four. England dropped five no-balled seven times for throw-

Richardson earlier scored an

declared - Steve Waugh hitting an unbeaten 131 -and Sri Lanka was 29 for one at the close. Sri Lanka's off-spinner, Mut-

tiah Muralitharan, who had been

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Australian umpire Darrell Hair •In Melbourne, meanwhile, bowled 20 overs on the second Australia extended its overday without being no balled. Muralitharan bowled only from night 234 for three to 500 for six the end where Steve Dunne, of New Zealand, was umpiring.

Hair looked on silently from square leg, the position from which an umpire usually calls a bowler for throwing.

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**SPORTS** 

# Home Is Where Detroit and N.Y. Shine on the Ice

The Associated Press

Home losses to the Ottawa Senators the worst team in the National Hockey League for four years running — have inspired the New York Rangers and Detroit Red Wings to lengthy successful streaks at home and shares of the league's points

Detroit's coach, Scotty Bowman, tied the NHL record for most games coached as his

#### NHLROUNDUP

Red Wings overcame an early two goal deficit Tuesday night to win their Limbaga straight game at Joe Louis Arena, 3-2, over St. Louis. St. Louis.

In New York, the Rangers home unbeaten streak to 17 as two poil by Pat Verbeek and Mark Messier I by Pat Verbeek and Mark Messier
York to a 6-4 victory over the Senators:
Both teams last loss at home against Ottawa, which fell to 7-26-1 season. Each has 52 points, tied with Fig.

da for the league lead. da for the league lead.

After Bowman's 1,606th game as an NHL coach, tying him with Al Arbour atop the career list for games coached, he seemed unimpressed with his own accomplishment.

"It's just another game," he said after Dino Ciccarelli's goal with 7:12 remaining provided the winning margin.

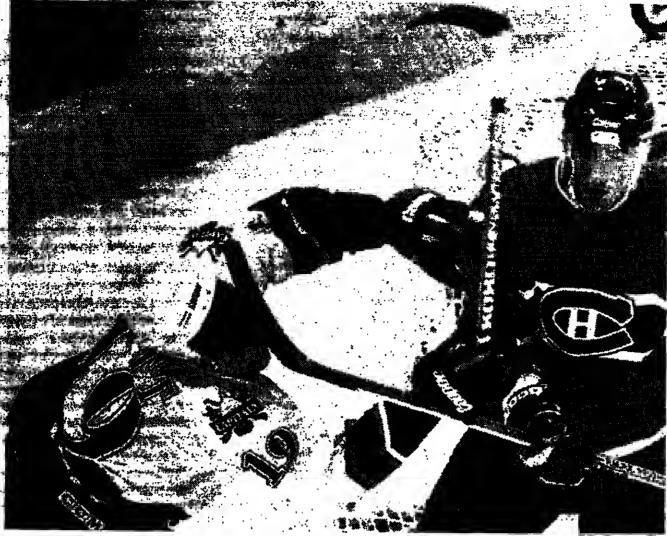
Rangers 6, Senators 4 New York improved to 14-0-3 in its last 17 games at Madison Square Garden since losing to Ottawa on Oct. 22.

Ottawa on Oct. 22.

The home unbeaten streak is the longest current streak in the NHL and the fifthin gest in franchise history. The team

record is 24, set in 1971-72. It was like a case of David and Goliath." the Senators' coach, Dave Allison, said. Rangers goals by Sergei Nemchinov and

Messier in the third period put the game away after Lance Pittick tied it at 4-4 four minutes into the third period. Penguins 6, Sabres 3 In Pittsburgh, Mario.



Washington's Brendan Witt, left, taking the brunt of a collision with Montreal's Patrice Brisbois. The Capitals won, 4-0.

for the league's goal-scoring lead as each scored his 30th and the Penguins took a 6-1 lead into the third period.

Lagr did gain ground on Lemieux in the scoring race by adding three assists to Lemieux's one, and his 72 points trail only Lemieux's 78.

Islanders 3, Bruins 3 Boston's rally from three-goal deficit in the third period was capped when the Bruins defenseman Ray Bourque picked off an errant clearing pass

camieux and Jaromir Jagr remained tied and scored with 3:40 remaining in regulation at New York.

> Capitals 4, Canadio ns o Jim Carey stopped 20 shots for his sixth career shutout, and host Washington broke the game open with three goals in a 2:21 span of the third period.

> ks 5, Stare 3 Dallas remained season after Murray Craven deflected Eric Daze's long shot past Darcy Wakaluk to break a tie with 3:59 to play at Chicago.

Flames 4, Canucks 2 Calgary's defenseman Jamie Huscroft, who entered the season with two goals in 135 NHL games, bounced in a shot from the point at 13:14 of the third period to break a 2-2 tie in Vancouver. It was his second of the season. Avalanche 5, Sharks 1 Colorado, leading

the Pacific Division by 13 points, took a 2winless against Central Division teams this 0 lead just 1:39 into the game at San Jose. Alexei Gusarov scored on a slap shot from near center ice after 31 seconds. Just 1:08 later, Scott Young scored to make it 2-0.

# Bulls Lose in Cleveland, To End December Streak

The Associated Press After a month, the Chicago Bulls finally

lost their third game of the season. The Indiana Pacers' 103-97 victory at home Tuesday night was the Bulls first loss since Nov. 26 at Seattle. The teams meet

where Chicago is undefeated this season. 'We can start another (winning streak). We've got a couple of days to practice and get back on track for Friday," said Michael Jordan, who matched his scoring average

#### NBA ROUNDUP

of 30 points but missed 17 of 28 shots. Indiana opened a 21-point lead after one quarter and a 24-point lead in the second period, then held off Chicago's comeback in the fourth.

The loss left Chicago one victory short of matching the longest winning streak — 14
— in franchise history and prevented it from going undefeated in a calendar month for the first time. Still, the Bulls' 23-3 record leaves them on pace for a record of 75-9 or 74-10. Either would be the best in National Basketball Association history.

Kings 115, Spurs 98 In Sacramento, the second-longest winning streak in the league also came to an end. Walt Williams scored 20 of his 25 points in the second half, helping Sacramento snap San Antonio's six-game winning streak. Mitch Richmond led all scorers with 31 points. Williams, wearing a mask after missing the previous three games with a broken

nose, connected on a three-pointer early in the third period to put the Kings ahead 58-54 and stayed hot after that. Nuggets 114, Mavericks 102 In Denver, the Nuggets extended Dallas' losing streak

to six games as Dale Ellis scored a season-

that was available to me. I put up some that eveo I was surprised went in. Once you get in a groove, it's hard to miss," Ellis said.

Jazz 114, Trail Biszers 104 in Salt Lake City, Utah, the Jazz also extended Portland's losing streak to six games, the Blazagain Friday night at the United Center, ers' longest skid in six years.

The Blazers used single coverage on Karl Malone. He responded with 47 points, eight rebounds, five assists and three steals.

"I was surprised oot to see more doubleteams," said Malone. "They felt they could play me one-on-one, which was a great challenge.

Rockets 100, Grizzlies 84 In Houston, the defending champions had a hard time shak-

ing free of the worst team in the league.
"We were close," said Eric Murdock,
who led the Grizzlies with 16 points, "We tried to hang tough with the world cham-"This was the best first half we ever had.
This was a very big win for us," said Rik
Smits, who led the Pacers with 26 points.

This was a very big win for us," said Rik
and anything can happen. That's our goal,
to hang around until the fourth quarter."

Heat 96, Nots 93 In Miami, Pat Riley's team avoided falling to 500 for the first against New Jersey.

Lakers 102, Celtics 91 Eddie Jones scored six of his 19 points in a game-ending 13-6 run that secured the victory for Los Angeles over visiting Boston.

Pistons 100, Warriors 90 In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Otis Thorpe had 26 points and 11 rebounds to lead Detroit to its fourth victory in five games. Joe Smith, a Golden State rookie, left the game with 3:58 left in the third quarter after losing his balance on a rebound and landing hard on his right hip.

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Hawks 94, Clippers 88 In Atlanta, Steve Smith scored 22 points, Mookie Blaylock had 13 points, eight assists and four steals and Ken Norman added 20 points for the

Reptors 93, Bucks 87 In Hamilton, Ontario, the Toronto rookie Damon Stouhigh 30 points.

"Wheo I hit the first one, I knew I was in for a good night. I wanted to take every shot damire had 21 points and 11 assists. The game, played at Copps Coliseum, drew a sellout crowd of 17,242. damire had 21 points and 11 assists. The

# SCOREBOARD

# BASKETBALL NBA STANDINGS Sacroments L.A. Lakers Phoenix Portland Golden Stat L.A. Choose

HOCKEY MHL STANDINGS

Detroit

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2 S.L.-Hull 22 (Macrinnis) (sh). Second Perfoct
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Perfoct D-Ciccorelli 7 (Erroy, Yzermon). Shots
on goat: S.L.-8-48-20, D-3-16-9-28, Geoffes:
S.L.-Fukr. D-Osgood.
Ottown

(Young). 5. Colorodo, Corbet 2 (Keone, Caolinsh). 6. S.J.-Miller 12 (Whitney, Rothiel (pp). Shots on good: Colorado 13-10-7--30. S.J.-

Ventouver 18 1—2 First Period: V-Gelinas 14 (Aucoln) 27, 2. C., Storn 8 (Chlasson, Sullivan). Second Period—None. Third Period: C-Millen 4 (Putrick, Yowney). 4. V-Rohlin 3 (Linden). 5. C. Huscorif 2 (Sillinam). 6. C-Fleury 13 (Youney) (en). Shots on goot: C. 10-11-9—30. V- 6-2-14. 14 Confessor C V-V-Med. V-Med.

#### SOCCER Blockburn 2, Monchester City 0

Chelsea 28, Everton 26, West Ham 23, Sheffield Wednesday 22, Southampton 19, Wimbledon 18, Queens Park Rangers 18, Manchesier City 16, Coventry 15, Botton 10.

# CRICKET

AUSTRALIA VS. SRI LANKA, 20 DAY WEDNESDAY, IN MELBOURNE 1 1st Innings: 500-6 dec. FOUNTH THAT OUTH AFRICA VS. ENGLAND, 20 DAY

WEDNESDAY, IN PORT ELIZAB Africa 1st innings: 428 (all out)

#### TRANSITIONS

corciest betvom Matmicz and Ansinos, Reymosis, 2d bosemen; Jose Lopez, 3d bose-man; Gregori Valera, Rotael Moscot and Juan Boutista, shortslops: Andres Nonez, Jhensy Sandoval, Juan de JS Vurgas and Antonio Guz-man, outflédiers; Edickson Ortiz Them, Miguel Frias Rottiguez, Vlodianir Paredes, Francisco Jiminez, Edwin Trinidad, Miguel Aquino, Carlos Perery Menu, Jose List Valder, and Roberto

BOSTON—Signed Chuck Ricci, plicher, to mi-ur-league contract,

CHICAGO—Agreed to ferms with Daye Ma-adan, 3d baseman, on 1-year controct, CHICHINATI—Traded David Wells, pitcher, to altimore Orioles for Curits Goodwin and Trovin

FOOTBALL NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE A-Fred Buddy Ryon, couch. MOCKEY LEAGUE

ANAMEIM—Reassigned Byron Pensiock, goaltender, from Bolfinore, AHL to Roleigh, ECHL Recalled John Lilley, right wing, from Los Angeles, IHL addresses BUFFALO—Recuted Martin Biron, gool-ender, from Beoupport, QMJRL CHICAGO—Sent MARE Prokopec, winger, to In-

Torwing, from Introductions to Common ECHL
COLORADO—Assigned London Wilson, right wing, to Comwoll, AHL. Recalled Agrica Miller, defensement, from Comwoll,
DALLAS—Put Craig Lindwig, defensement, on the Common Com

or: squrea list, Recalled Pa man, from Michigan, IHL SOMORTON—Recalled P.

Certify Darries and Morcester, AHL. Sent Grigot Pontelees, left wing, to Utah, IHL. Sent Jason Widmer, defensemen, to Worcester, AHL.

MID-BASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE-

counced that the contract of con econstruction because or account provents.

Seorgia—Announced that Gien Mason will not accept the position of football couch and will remain the football couch at the University of Kansos. Named Jim Donnan football couch.

LOUISVILLE—Amnounced Larry poststant basketball coach, has be

and signed him to 5-year contract.

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# Failing Memories

WASHINGTON — The myself to do. Has anybody seen darkest secret in the lives my spoon?"

Mike Bernstein said, "It of Americans is that their memevery person, regardless of ad-

vancing years, has dealt with. We all live in fear that someone else will find out about us, when in fact that someone can't remember anything, either.



I discovered this accidentally at a recent dinner party in Georgetown.

I blurted out, "I don't seem to be able to remember anything any more. Whenever I think of something, I search for a pen to write it down, and by

Vermeer Gets Encore Despite Budget Crisis The Associated Press

the time I find it I have forgotten

what it was I wanted to remind

ASHINGTON — The meer paintings at the National Gallery of Art has reopened, using money from a private fund to open despite the government budget crisis.

The gallery is the second major facility to get a temporary reprieve from the shutdown of government departments due to lack of appropriations from Congress. The Smithsonian's Museum of American History also found enough funds to operate this week.

We are able to open the Vermeer exhibition, which is a to call up Liz Stevens to find out very rare event in the annals of art history," said Deborah Ziska, a spokeswoman for the National Gallery.

ories are failing. It's not just an must be the water. I'm to the age problem — it is something point where I can't remember my wife's name.

'So?" I asked. "I call her Elizabeth when her name is . . . Damn, I forgot

I realized that I had opened a can of worms.

Everybody at the table adnitted that he or she was losing it. Until now they also thought they were the only ones with the problem.

Rosemary Briggs said, "I took my grandchild to Safeway the other day and forgot she was with me. Her mother was furious, particularly when I tried to explain that it was not my fault. I had forgotten where I

left my grocery cart."

Audrey Scott said, "I don't have trouble with people. My main problem is I never remember where I parked my car."

No one is certain why people

are getting like this.

Helen Gelhard said that she read an article that viruses from exhibit of Johannes Ver- computers were getting into paintings at the National people's brains and causing memory loss.

Rosemary Sarsfield said that our brains had become overloaded. She confided that she finds it impossible to recall when is the best time to eat oysters, or when to attend her daughter's Communion, or if both occasions have an "r"

I remarked that this all sounded like material for a column. But hy the time I reached my desk the next morning, I had what our dinner conversation had been about.

She promised that she would

A Generation Gap Among Chinese Filmmakers

By Joan Dupont International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Jiang Wen has been on the town, up till 4 A.M. with friends from Beijing, talking about all these problems." Placing his pack of Marlboros opposite the matchbook on the director's roller-coaster tempo, and his the table, he maps out his world view: "Over young actors. here, you have China, and over there, the

named the Chinese Depardieu, certainly as much for his bomhastic, commandeering style as his screen talents. He won attention in Zhang Yimou's "Red Sorghum" and stardom in a TV series called "A Pekingese in New York." He emers, they had mistaken ideas about the Revolution, they said "Why make a movie about the contain the said that? It's not interesting." has just presented his first film as director, "In the Heat of the Sun," to a packed house during a Chinese film festival in Paris.

A bulky figure who barks exclamations to

Wen portrays the Cultural Revolution as a dawning of liberty and self-expression.

whiskers, an Irish tweed cap, a Ralph Lauren nurtleneck and blood-red socks. Back from shooting in Mongolia, his pate is shaved, which makes him look like a hungry ogre, or his current incarnation as the first emperor of China.

"Last night, we ate French," he explains, "because Chinese restaurants abroad are fake, like Chinese films." He thumps his heart with his fist. "I'm not an official director, I made my movie from here, because I had something to say, not to win prizes. But some filmmakers want recognition, and the West wants to show compassion and understanding for China -those poor Chinese!

"In the Heat of the Sun," adapted from a novel by Wang Shuo, is a midsummer sex comedy about teenagers under the Cultural Revolution, strikingly different from stately historic sagas by Fifth Generation directors like

Zhang and Chen Kaige.

In Wen's movie there is a dash of Besson and Bertolucci, and he portrays the period as a dawning of liberty and self-expression. 'I was born in '63, and only IO, but I

understood what was happening. That period opened our eyes - communism created a new generation, my generation, and the Cultural Revolution brought a hreath of idealism. Di-rectors born in the '50s make movies from a

political point of view, criticizing or praising the regime; they have no real personality."

"In the Heat of the Sun" brims with iconoclastic humor — party-line propaganda is put down, parents and teachers are out, love and sex are in, kids triumph. Kinetic zest comes from

"Choosing the actors is 50 percent of a di-rector's job. I've been an actor for nine years, so A popular actor, Wen, 32, has been nick- I know how to talk to actors. I took five months to find them, and then, I shut them up in military Red Guards and all that? It's not interesting.

Making a movie that explodes tenets about that painful time may be asking for trouble, the hectic body language. Wen sports mean-looking director concedes. "The censors were embarrassed; they didn't know how to look at my movie because it was new and dangerous, even the title scared them - the Cultural Revolution is not considered a very sunny period. They wanted cuts, and a year later, after more cuts, they released it."

One of the parts that was cut was his own, playing Monkey as an grown man. Like his young hero, the director was a rambunctious adolescent. "Nobody knew what to do with me and so they said, maybe the theater?" After high school, he auditioned for the Beijing Drama Institute. His younger brother, also an actor, studied at the cinema school and played in Zhang's "To Live"—"We have very different ideas," he says. His father is a military man, "very ordinary," and his mother, a professor, is

a hig strong woman — "My father is scared of her! That's where I get my strength." His mother's father, a landowner, lost ev-erything under the Cultural Revolution. "It was hard on him, and afterward, oobody made excuses. But my grandfather's story didn't in-fluence me. There was injustice on both sides, and after, everybody said they were persecuted, nobody wanted to say they persecuted others. When you have power, power corrupts. In China, the professors had enormous power, the students rebelled."

This is the story he became a filmmaker to

He read Edgar Snow's 1937 "Red Star Over China" - "a book that taught me a lot. I read history for inspiration because I can't get everything from my imagination, I need the concrete"—and was impressed by documentaries by Antonioni, a director who is usually admired



Jiang Wen, in striped shirt, during the shooting of "In the Heat of the Sun."

films: You could hear the voices of the students! They believed they were changing the course of history; they had an ideal. Not like young people today who are a little tired.

Wen is identified with the Sixth Generation of Chinese filmmakers, but he calls this a convenient label. "A film is an ocuvre, and you have to judge the work, not the generation. A lot of directors are looking for a helping hand from the West. I'd love to make a movie showing how the Chinese deceive the West and how Westerners lap up this fake idea of China. What do you think? Don't you think I exaggerate a bit?"

Of course, he points out, communism came from the West. "That's why I use Western music, from Mascagni's 'Cavalleria Rusticana' to the Internationale. Some people thought that was odd, but it's normal - the Internationale is a French song."

'In the Heat of the Sun' had a big budget by Chinese standards — more than \$1 million —

**PEOPLE** 

for fiction rather than for reportage. "His doc-umentaries were more realistic than the Chinese ing from Taiwan and Hong Kong, and help from ing from Taiwan and Hong Kong, and help from France and Germany. The French producer Jean-Louis Piel took 12 minutes of rushes to the Cannes festival and showed them to Volker Schlöndorff, director of the Babelsberg Stu-

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dios, who invited Wen to edit in Berlin. The film has been a hit at home and abroad but the director doesn't picture working in other countries; nor does he think his success will mean more freedom to make another film.

Perhaps things were freer in the 70s, because the system was overthrown. The Cultural Revolution was a love story between Mao and Chinese youth. To me, Mao was not a god, but a great poet, he created an ocuvre."

Today, there may be the risk of another revolution, Wen thinks, 'because there are big new hotels and karaoke bars, but no real improvement for the working classes and peasants. Mao said that Communist intellectuals were pag-nacious, and I'm not afraid to say what I think, it may mean problems, but that's the way I am."

#### WEATHER

Europe Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by Accu-Weather, North America 

Europe Seasonably cold Friday through Sunday from Washington, D.C., to New York City with aome sunshine each day. Rainy this weekend in Houston and New Orleans; some ol the rain

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WEEKEND SKI REPORT

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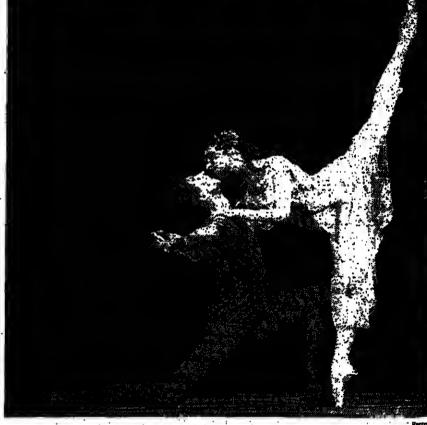
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Latin America

#### PTER a home-alone Christmas with-A out her sons, Princess Diana slipped out of Britain for a Caribbean vacation, the news agency at London's Heathrow Airport reported. Booked under a false came, Diana boarded a scheduled British West Indies Airlines plane bound for Antigua. She was accompanied by an unidentified female companion, Air News reported. She had spent Christmas Day watching television at home on her own, newspapers reported. To cheer herself up the next day, she visited Susie Orbach, her health therapist. The rest of the royal family, including her estranged husband, Prince Charles, and her sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, were at Queen Eliz-England for Christmas.

A bizarre 1970 White House encounter between Richard Nixon and Elvis Presley to discuss the war on drugs has become the subject of a book - and it is 61 pages long. "The Day Elvis Met Nixoo" was written hy Egil Krogh, the presidential aide who served a six-month prisoo term for his role in the Watergate scandal. He was most surprised by the big hug Elvis gave the president as he left the Oval Office. "I thought to myself, this is the last meeting they let me schedule, because you don't hug Nixon," he said. . . . The Reverend Billy Graham says he won't see Oliver Stone's "Nixon," the movie about his friends Richard and Pat Nixon. He wants to remember them "as they really were." In a news release be said that 'I was with the Nixons in both the peaks and valleys of their lives. The Richard and Pat Nixon that I knew served their country with dedication and distinction for over half a century." Graham used to visit the Nixons at the White House and he spoke at their funerals.

Parts 2772 amony lifts chosed due to wind Parts 27712 frosh around cream disease, quider Parts 27712 5165 lifts open, great life possible Parts 27712 670 lifts open, mustly improved state Parts 27712 all 30 lifts open, frosh stronkist, cold Parts 27712 175 lifts open, planty of good sharing Parts 27712 175 lifts open, new around all attaches Van 26712 4777 lifts open, more lifts of attaches п Tonya Harding's wedding went off without a hitch, but the aftermath has been anything but a honeymoon. After an amateur photographer at the Olympic skater's wedding to Michael Smith sold a picture of the newlyweds to The Oregonian for \$100, Harding complained that the picture invalidated her \$10,000 contract with The Globe. The amateur photographer, who was identified by The Oregonian only as Bob, a 26-year-old who was a guest of a relative of a bridesmaid, said that he left



HOLIDAY MAGIC IN MOSCOW - Nadezhda Grachova and Alexander Uvarov dance in the Bolshoi Ballet's premiere of "Romeo and Juliet."

after Harding yelled profanities and that formance in "The Nutcracker" ballet to Smith jumped outo Bob's girlfriend's car. babysit their six-month-old nephew Smith said the car hit him. Harding gave chase in her car and at one point his car was rammed, Boh said. Harding said the fracas is "a remembrance I don't want to have of my wedding."

Former President François Mitter- years. rand of France, alling from prostate cancer, has been sightseeing in southern Egypt, residents reported. Mitterrand, 79, arrived in Aswan on Sunday to spend Christmas and the New Year, as he has done for several years.

.00-800-1311

Zachary Rodham. Zachary's parents are Tony Rodham, Mrs. Clinton's brother, and Nicole Boxer Rodham, daughter of Senator Barbara Boxer of California, Chelsea, 15, has danced with the Washington School of Ballet in the annual Nutcracker boliday production for several

П Hank Williams Jr. is among the big stars on the bill at the 20th annual Jamboree in the Hills, called "The Super Bowl of Country Music." Also scheduled to carforn at the four-day festival in Judici Warren Harry Market Harry and Market Harry Market Bill and Hillary Rodham Clinton gard, the Oak Ridge Boys, Tanya Tucker missed their daughter Chelsea's last per-

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